

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1365.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1853.

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Stamped Edition, 5d

For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are released in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazine. Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received at HAYDON'S LITERARY, 3, Grafton Place, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 11, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 2s. 6d. or 11s. 2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. DISTRIBUTION OF BRITISH PLANTS IN FEBRUARY, 1854.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.
SATURDAY NEXT will be the LAST DAY for the receipt of Plants to entitle Members to participate in the next Distribution. G. E. DENNES, Secretary.
40, Bedford-street, Strand,
Dec. 22, 1853.

SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

President—His Grace the DUKE OF NORFOLK.
Gentlemen desiring to join this Society are informed that Copies of the Rules, List of Members (upwards of 200), and Forms of application for admission, may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary.
Annual Subscription £2 10 0
Composition for Life 5 0 0
On an order January 1, 1854, an Entrance Fee of 10s will be required, from which 10s Members who join the Society during the present month will be exempt.
GEORGE RISH WEBB, Honorary Secretary.
40, Addison-road North, Notting-ham.

THE MUSEUM OF ORNAMENTAL ART, MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, PALM MALL, will be opened FREE daily, except on Sundays, from Christmas Holidays, till the 31st of December to the 31st of January.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ELEMENTARY WORKS OF STUDENTS in all the SCHOOLS of ART of the DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE and ART both Self-supporting and subsidised, will be opened at KENNINGTON GORE, on TUESDAY, December 27.—Admission FREE, daily from 10 till 4.

ON THE HUMAN FORM.—EIGHT LECTURES, by JOHN MARSHALL, Esq. F.R.C.S., Assistant Surgeon University College Hospital, will be delivered at the DEPT. of SCIENCE and ART, MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, on TUESDAY EVENINGS, as follows, at 8 o'clock.

Lecture I.—3rd Jan.—THE HUMAN FORM considered as an
object of Art.
Lecture II.—10th Jan.—THE HARD or ANGULAR ELEMENTS
of the HUMAN FORM. THE BONES with the JOINTS.
Lecture III.—17th Jan.—THE SOFT or ROUND ELEMENTS
of the HUMAN FORM. THE MUSCLES, SKIN, and IN-
TERPOSED STRUCTURES.
Lecture IV.—24th Jan.—THE FORMS of the TORSO.
Lecture V.—31st Jan.—THE FORMS of the LIMBS.
Lecture VI.—7th Feb.—THE BONES of the HEAD and NECK.
Lecture VII.—14th Feb.—THE VARIETIES of the HUMAN FORM, de-
pendent on Sex, Age, Character, Nation, and Race.
Lecture VIII.—21st Feb.—THE HUMAN FORM, as influenced
by the Will, the Passions, the Disease, Sleep, and Death.
Tickets of Admission to the Course of Eight Lectures, 4s. or 1s.
each Lecture, to be had at the Office.

BOARD OF TRADE.—DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE.

The following COURSES of LECTURES are about to be com-
menced at the METROPOLITAN SCHOOL of SCIENCE applied
to MINING and the ARTS.
LECTURES ON APPLIED MECHANICS, by Prof. WILLIS,
F.R.S., commencing Jan. 4, at 12 o'clock.
LECTURES ON GEOLOGY, by Prof. RAMSAY, F.R.S., com-
mencing Jan. 5, at 11.
LECTURES ON METALLURGY, by Dr. PERCY, F.R.S.,
commencing Jan. 6, at 11.
LECTURES ON PALEONTOLOGY, by Prof. E. FORBES,
F.R.S., commencing Jan. 6, at 6.
LECTURES ON MINING, by W. W. SMITH, M.A., com-
mencing Jan. 9, at 5.
THE CHEMICAL and METALLURGICAL LABORATORIES
will RE-OPEN for the Winter Session on the 4th JANUARY.
Officers of the Army and Navy in the Queen's, or the ILLY. Com-
missioners, Acting Mining Agents or Managers, Members of
the College of Preceptors and Certified Schoolmasters can at-
tend the Lectures at half the usual charges.
For further information apply to THOMAS REEKS, Registrar,
White Museum of Natural History, Strand.

RUSSELL INSTITUTION, GREAT COM- MUNIST STREET.—FIVE LECTURES on GEOLOGY, in con- nection with the BRITISH MUSEUM.—A COURSE of TWELVE LECTURES on PALEONTOLOGY, or the NATURAL HIS- TORY of EXTINCT ANIMALS, will be given at this Institu- tion by ROBERT E. GRANT, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., &c. F.R.S. F.R.S., &c. Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Zoology in University College, London. They will be commenced on TUES- DAY EVENING, JANUARY 10, 1854, at Eight o'clock precisely, and continued on the consecutive Tuesdays until March 25. This Course will be open to Graduates of the University of Edinburgh and to Members of the Royal College of Physicians, London. Students of either of these Universities who may be desirous of attending are requested to leave their Cards at the Institution. Others that may be considered. Parties not of those Classes, and not being members of the Institution, will be admitted to this Course by Tickets, to be obtained of the Secretary, at One Guinea each.

A PROPRIETOR'S SHARE in this Institution (including the privilege of Free Admission to all the Lectures) may be ob- tained for the sum of Five Guineas on application to the Secretary. EDW. W. BRAYLEY, Secretary.

WHITTINGTON CLUB and METRO- POLITAN ATHENÆUM.—Weekly Assemblies for Music and Dancing.—Lectures, Classes, and Entertainments.—Dining Rooms, Smoking, and Drawing Rooms.—Library, Reading, and Writing Rooms, supplied with 250 daily and 70 weekly and Provin- cial Papers. Subscriptions.—Two Guineas the Year. One Guinea the Half-year. Ladies half these rates. Tickets for the evening and Half-year are now ready. No Entrance Fee. H. Y. BULMER, Secretary. 18, Arundel-street, Strand.

PREPARATION for the UNIVERSITIES. A Married Clergyman, Graduate in Honours, M.A., Ox- ford, residing sixteen miles west of London, RECEIVES a FEW PUPILS to whom he offers the first advantages. The highest testimonials to University Tutors and Parents of former Pupils. —Address, Rev. R. B. Church Association, 22, Southampton- street, Strand.

MILL-HILL SCHOOL, Hendon, Middlesex.— Head Master, Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A.

Applications for the Admission of Pupils, and for preliminary
information, may be made to the Head Master, or to the
Secretary.
The first Session of 1854 will commence on Monday, January 30th.
By order of the Committee,
Old Jewry Chambers. ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

STUDENTS of OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.—PROFESSOR J. G. GREENWOOD is prepared to RECEIVE a FEW STUDENTS of the College as RESIDENT PUPILS.—For particulars, address to Professor GREENWOOD, Owens College, Manchester.

BATH PROPRIETARY COLLEGE, SYDNEY GARDENS.

Principal—Rev. T. W. WHALE, M.A., St. John's College, Cam-
bridge.
Vice-President—F. T. CONINGTON, M.A., Fellow C.C.C.
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French—M. DUBAIL, B.A. and B.L., Charlemagne College,
Paris.
German—Dr. KOCK, Ph.D.
Hindoo—Capt. DUFFIN, Bengal Retired List.
Fortification—Capt. TARGET.
Drawing—Mr. G. ROSENBERG, Associate of the Water-Colour
Society.
The Christmas Vacation will terminate on the 1st of February.
For terms and other particulars, apply to the Principal at
the College, or to
HON. SEC. DR. HODGES, 9, Gay-street, Bath.

QUEENWOOD COLLEGE, near STOCKBRIDGE, HANTS.

Principal—GEORGE EDMONDSON.
Mathematics and Natural Philosophy—Mr. Thos. A. Hirst, of the
Universities of Marburg and Berlin.
Chemistry—Dr. Heinrich Debus, late Assistant in the Laboratory
of Prof. Hansen, and Chemical Lecturer in the University of
Marburg.
Classics and History—Mr. John S. Mummery, L.C.P.
Modern Languages and Foreign Literature—Mr. John Haas, from
M. de Fellenberg's Institution, Horwyl, Switzerland.
Geology—Mr. Richard F. Wright.
Painting and Drawing—Mr. Richard P. Wright.
English and Junior Mathematics—Mr. William Singleton.
Music—Mr. William Cornwall.
Mr. Edwin Coomes.

TERMS:
For Boys under 12 years of age £40 per Annum.
" from 12 to 16 50
" above 16 60
For further information, see Prospectus, to be had of the Prin-
cipal.
The FIRST SESSION of 1854 commences on the 15th of
JANUARY.

EDUCATION.—The Misses WINKWORTH, resident in one of the healthiest Suburban localities, receive a limited number of Young Ladies, to whom H. is their anxious endeavour to impart a sound Education on the principles of the Church of England: the strictest attention being at the same time paid to the formation of their manners, and to their personal appearance.—For terms, address 3, Carlton Villas, Grosvenor- square.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH-STREET, PECKHAM, for BUSINESS and PROFESSIONAL PER- SONS, will RE-OPEN on the 19th of January. Especial attention paid to the Modern Languages and the Elements of General Science. Inclusive Terms, and of Quinque Prospectus may be had on application to the Principal, J. YATES.

WINSLOW HALL, BUCKS.—DR. LOVELL'S SCHOLASTIC ESTABLISHMENT was founded at Mannheim in 1836, and removed to Winslow Hall in 1843. The course of tuition includes the French and German Languages, classical and modern literature, the study of a public college with the Classical, Mathematical, and other Studies that are preparatory to the Universities, the Military Colleges, and the Army and Navy Examinations. The number of Pupils is limited to thirty. The Principal is always in the School-room, and superintends the Studies. There are also French, German, and English resident Assistants. The domestics are mostly German. The premises are very spacious, and offer every requisite advantage for health and instruction. The communication with all parts of Great Britain and Ireland is facile, as Winslow is situated on a branch line be- tween the North-Western and Great Western Railways. Refer- ences to former Pupils, and to the friends of past and present Pupils, together with all further information, can be had on applica- tion to Dr. Lovell, as above.

GERMAN COLLEGE for YOUNG LADIES.

—OSBORNE HOUSE, Upper Avenue-road, Regent's Park.
The WINTER TERM will commence January 12th, 1854.
This Institution utilises the advantages of a public college with
those of a private establishment; it is conducted by a German
Protestant Lady, who receives only sixteen resident Pupils, the
daughters of Gentlemen. The Pupils have the best opportunity
offered of acquiring the German language thoroughly and prac-
tically, and receive a very careful English education. The Lec-
tures are given by able Masters only. Applications for admis-
sion to the ensuing Term must be made before the 15th of January.

A GRADUATE of OXFORD (in Honours), who has also a thorough knowledge of French and German wishes to READ with ONE or TWO PUPILS. Education re- quired, and Ancient and Modern History, and—Address B.A., Westerton's Library, 20, St. George's-place, Hyde Park-corner.

DANISH LANGUAGE.—A PROFESSOR from COPENHAGEN, desiring to make a stay of some months in London for literary purposes, offers to RE-OPEN the LECTURES in the Language of his Country. For references and particulars of ad- dress only apply to J. A. CHRISTIAN, Publisher, 14, Strand.

MILITARY TUITION.—LIEUT. COLONEL ANSTRUTHER receives a LIMITED NUMBER of GENTLEMEN Candidates for Commission in the Army, and has received permission to refer parties requiring further infor- mation to the Adjutant-General's Office, and to the Adjutant-General instructed in his care.—A Chequer's Villa, Bayswater.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—The MISSSES LIDDELL beg to announce that they have still accommodation for a few additional BOARDERS. The salubrity of the air of Friesles has long been known; it is twenty miles south of Edinburgh, to which it will shortly become a suburb, as railway communication will be opened in May. The Misses LiddeLL were educated in London and on the Continent, and under- take to prepare Young Ladies for finishing their studies abroad with great advantage, their time and energies being exclusively devoted to those under their charge, and the terms such as are likely to be met with where the education is so thoroughly sound. The Misses LiddeLL speak German fluently. Their other qualifi- cations will be best learnt from their Cards of Terms and testimo- nials, which can be had on application to Mrs. LiddeLL, who takes charge of the domestic arrangements. There is an Episcopal Chapel, as well as Churches of other denominations in Friesles. Twined Barn House, Friesles.

SCHOOL ASSISTANTS, duly qualified, in search of Engagements either in Ladies' or Gentlemen's Estab- lishments, are invited to Register their Names, Qualifications, and References, in person, at Messrs. RELFE, BROTHERS, School, BOOKSELLERS and STATIONERS, 150, Aldersgate-street, London. Those Registers are opened Half-Yearly, for One Month, from the 15th of December and June. No charge is made, the object being to secure to Messrs. R. the connexion of Assistants of ability and worth. Hours, Ten to Four.

MEDICAL PUPIL.—An M.D. M.R.C.S. and L.A.C. unattached, Junior Partner in an extensive practice in the country, is desirous of TAKING a PUPIL. Unusual opportunities are offered for acquiring knowledge, and especial pains will be taken to thoroughly instruct the youth in the ele- mentary portions of the profession.—Terms, 100 Guineas per annum, address, M. D., care of Mr. Archer, Guy's Hospital.

DR. FISCHER, PROFESSOR of the GERMAN LANGUAGE and LITERATURE, has to inform his Pupils and Friends that he has REMOVED to 160, ALBANY- STREET, Regent's Park.

DR. ALTSCHUL, PROFESSOR of the GERMAN, ITALIAN, and FRENCH LAN- GUAGES and LITERATURE, Member of the Philological Society of London, Examiner to the Royal College of Preceptors, has REMOVED to 20, CHANCERY-STREET, Cavendish-square. Pupils have the option of studying TWO Languages in the same Lesson, or in alternate Lessons, at their own, or at the Doctor's residence.

LITERARY EMPLOYMENT WANTED.— A Gentleman accustomed to Literary Work wishes to occupy part of his time in PREPARING MSS. for the Press, or to furnish ORIGINAL ARTICLES and REVIEWS. Address F. Morley's Library, Park-road, Regent's Park.

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NOTICE.—Mr. BENTLEY begs to state that it is not his intention to issue, for the present, any more New Works of Fiction at the prices announced in October last. Works of this class will henceforth be published by him at the former price of 1s. 6d. per volume. Mr. BENTLEY's own opinion remains unchanged as to the ultimate advantage to both Authors and the Reading Public by the adoption of a more moderate selling price. It is evident, how- ever, that the change cannot be successfully effected except by the co-operation of Publishers; and he regrets to add, that the support he had meant to calculate upon receiving from the Circulating Libraries, the parties now immediately benefited by the sale, has not realised his expectations. New Burlington-street, Dec. 24, 1853.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS (Sole or Shareholders).—A Gentleman wishes to invest 1,000l. or more in the Purchase of a SHARE in an old-established PHO- TOGRAPHIC NEWSPAPER of Conservative principles. It is not the object of the advertiser to take an active part either in the editorial or printing departments, his object being merely to effect a safe pecuniary investment. The highest references can be furnished. Address to Mr. HENRY, Secretary, French Rectory, Upper Lion-court, Fleet-street, London.

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nials and references for his qualifications and character.—
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square, London.

TO BUREAU TRAVELLERS.

THE Trustees of the Founder deem it right to
remind all parties intending to compete, that the period for
submitting Candidates EXPIRES on the 1st of JANUARY NEXT,
and that none can be received after that day.
Aberdeen, Nov. 24th.

ASSYRIAN LANGUAGE.—REV. DR. E. HICKSON would dispose of a few copies of his NEW ASSYRIAN LANGUAGE, and would also give also give some INSTRUCTION therein, to a Gentleman who may be willing to devote himself to this important study, and who, from his age, antecedents, and general attainments, is likely to succeed in it. Apply to him at the Doctors' Kiln, Kilgubbin, Co. Down, before the 25th January.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.—Founded 1745. Supported by Voluntary Contributions.

In-Patients admitted last year 2,308
Out-door Patients ditto 19,622

During the Autumn the Hospital has been again considerably enlarged. Two wards have been added to the Female Cancer Establishment, and room has been provided for an increased number of Male Cancer Patients. An addition of 25 beds has been thus made to the Department.

The enlargement of this peculiar and important branch of the charity, which affords an asylum to patients afflicted with Cancer in all its stages, has been made in order to carry out the beneficent intentions of the late Sir JOSEPH DE COURCEY LAFAY, Bart., who by his will desired that the remainder of his personal property should be laid out in the purchase of an annual income in the Three per Cent. Consols, for the purpose of a Cancer Ward in the Middlesex Hospital of London.

The weekly Board have availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded to effect alterations, by which increased space and accommodation have been gained in other parts of the Hospital.

In consequence of the general enlargement and improvement the Hospital is rendered capable of receiving 400 In-patients. The following extract from the Report for the last half-year made by the Registrar to the Hospital, affords a sufficient proof of the benefit which has resulted from the alterations which have of late years been made in the Hospital. "That the system of registration of the patients recently established is now in full operation, and that its practical working is found to be as satisfactory as was expected. The great number of cases of cancer of the eyelids in the Hospital, proves the value of the improvements that have been effected in the ventilation of the wards and arrangements of the patients; whilst other diseases, ones so common and destructive, are now almost eradicated by due attention to hygienic laws."

The Weekly Board have again to appeal most urgently on behalf of the funds of the Hospital, which is absolutely necessary for its maintenance in its present efficient state. The interest on the vested property of the Hospital is not sufficient to cover one-third of the annual expenses, and the remainder of it is entirely dependent for the remainder on the liberality of its supporters.

The Governors and the Public are earnestly invited to inspect the alterations now completed, as the Weekly Board are not anxious that the general state of the Hospital should be closely investigated, feeling assured that it affords the strongest claim to public liberality and support.

MICHAEL SMITH, Chairman.

Donations and Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, W. Tooke, Esq., 12, Russell-square, and John Ingram Travera, Esq., 5, Whitechapel-lane; the Bankers, Messrs. Coutts & Co.; Sir Samuel Scott & Co.; Hoares; Drummonds & Co.; and by the Secretary, at the Hospital.

CURE OF STAMMERING AND DEFECTIVE ARTICULATION.—Instructions during the Holidays. From persons deceived by inflated statements, no Fee is expected until the Remedies are effectual. Messrs. Harrison, Hargrave, & Co. privately instructed in delivery.—Bath, Professor of Education, 18, Harrington-square.

THE WELLINGTON (late Crookford's Club House), entrance 100, Piccadilly. Gentlemen visiting London can dine in the Splendid Dining Room of this celebrated establishment at a very moderate scale of charges. The Dining Room is the largest in London; the Cooking and the most choice of Wines are supplied in the Imperial measure. Reading and Smoking Rooms are open for the accommodation of Gentlemen after dinner.

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WIMBLEDON PARK.—FREEHOLD to be LET or SOLD.—A Modern well-built FAMILY MANSION, which has been occupied for the last four years by a Family of high respectability (now residing there), but would give immediate possession should it be required. Its situation is the best in the Park, commanding an extensive and beautiful prospect. The Grounds and Plantations, at great outlay, have been most judiciously arranged, with handsome Conservatory, Kitchen-garden, Greenhouse, &c. Five-Staff Side, Double Coach-House, Offices, &c., comprising in all about six acres, well drained into the sewer, and with a most abundant supply of spring and soft water. There are three miles of the most beautiful and well-wooded Estate right and left to the New-road, which may be taken or not. It is approached by a convenient Carriage drive, with Entrance Lodge from the High Road to Wimbledon, and is within a quarter of an hour's ride of two Railway Stations. Omnibuses pass daily.—For Cards to view and full particulars, apply at Mr. JOHN NEWSON'S Office, 28, Grosvenor-mews, New Bond-street, or 23, A. Davies-street, Hertsley-square.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW. No. CLXXXVII. —ADVERTISEMENTS for the forthcoming Number must be forwarded to the Publisher by the 2nd, and BILLS for Insertion by the 4th January.

John Murray, Albemarle-street.

WILLIAMS & NORGATE, having completed the Alterations and Enlargement of their old Premises, have RETURNED TO 14, HENRIETTA-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.

December 15, 1853.

CHEAP BOOKS—CHEAP MUSIC.—A discount of 25, in 1s. on Books, and 4d. in 1s. on Music, is taken off the published price for cash, by PEARSON & CO., Bishopsgate Within. Country orders despatched the same day, and Music in any quantity sent free by post for 6d. A great variety of Bibles, Prayers, Church Services, &c., at the lowest prices. Please write your order distinct, and give, where practicable, Publishers' names.

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BOOKS, SECOND-HAND.—May be had, gratis, JOEL ROWSELL'S CATALOGUE, No. 61, containing 1,000 interesting Works by Standard Authors, including Voyages and Travels, History, Classics, and General Literature, Ancient and Modern, interesting to Book-Collectors, and highly suitable to Public Institutions and Free Libraries. A Catalogue of good useful books published modern, gratis, and very low prices.—Apply to J. ROWSELL, Bookseller, 28, Great Queen-street, London.—N.B. The full value given for libraries of any extent, and small parcels of books, in any part of the Kingdom.

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Nor made atonement when he did amiss;
Had sighed to many, though he loved but one,
And that loved one, alas! I could ne'er be his.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1853.

REVIEWS

Report from the Select Committee on the National Gallery; together with the Proceedings of the Committee, Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Index. Ordered by the House of Commons to be Printed.

THE evidence on which the Report presented to the House of Commons by the Special Committee was based is at length before us. It is contained in a folio volume of something more than a thousand pages: not a light book in any sense, nor one likely to be largely sought after as a literary amenity for Christmas reading. Still, its contents are unusually important,—as a body of opinions on our present Art-possession, and as a statement of the several theories now prevailing in artistic circles on national galleries, museums of classical antiquity, management of public institutions, and the preservation of works of genius. In professional circles, it will unquestionably excite comment and call forth criticism and reply; and hereafter, when the passions of the moment have lost their impulse, and the personal contentions which give it spice have worn themselves out, it will continue to interest the historian of Art and of Social Progress in England in the nineteenth century, not only as the battle-ground of conflicting ideas and the record of interesting theories and experience, but also as the literary basis of a very considerable change in those national institutions which peculiarly affect and assist in the intellectual developments of the country.

We propose, therefore, not to abstract this Blue Book; but, in the first place, to gather from its mighty mazes, and to lay before our readers some statement of the decisions of the Committee,—and of the views, experiences, and recommendations on which such decisions were based,—on the grand topic of the future reorganization of the National Gallery; and in the second place to make such suggestions as occur to us on the uses to which existing institutions may be turned in furtherance of the general object, and to examine freely and fully the conditions on which the present Royal Academy may abandon its anomalous character of a private corporation and aspire to become a national institution.

After a minute and searching inquiry—the calmness, patience, and candour of which will excite attention, now that the ten thousand statements of witnesses are before the reader, word for word—the Committee arrive at certain general conclusions, which are here put before Parliament in the shape of Recommendations. Such of these conclusions as are numbered 1 to 6 affect the future direction of the Gallery, and run as follows.—

“1. That it is the opinion of this Committee that a system of management by a Board of Trustees should be continued. 2. That no person should in future, in virtue of any office, become a Trustee of the National Gallery. 3. That the Trustees be appointed by the Treasury. 4. That it is expedient that the number of Trustees be diminished as vacancies occur. 5. That the office of Keeper of the Gallery should be abolished. 6. That a salaried Director should be appointed by the Treasury for a definite time; at the expiration of which he may be re-appointed.”

The experience was wide and the suggestions were numerous on which it was decided to recommend the gathering up of all the leading lines of authority in the National Gallery into a single hand. Most emphatic testimony on this point was given by Sir C. Eastlake, Baron de Klenze, Messrs. Dyce, Hawkins, Wellesley, and others. In the evidence of Baron de Klenze, Privy Councillor and Chamberlain to the King

of Bavaria—whose statements throughout are worthy of the deepest consideration, as exhibiting a vast amount of Art-knowledge and a perfect acquaintance with Art-doings in Munich for thirty years past—we have the following questions and answers.—

“Is the Minister of the Interior at Munich, who has the direction of the Gallery, a person remarkable for his knowledge of Art, or is he merely selected as being a man of business?—He is selected as being a man of business.

“Who is there under the Minister of the Interior?—The person who is responsible to the Minister is the Director of the Gallery; the Director is perfectly authorized to make any arrangements he thinks proper, and it is only in some extraordinary cases as regards expenses, and so forth, that he applies to the Minister of the Interior.

“The difference between Paris and Berlin and Munich is, that at Paris and Berlin there is a Director-in-Chief of the whole of the establishments, who is responsible to the Minister, whilst at Munich there are several Special Directors, who are each responsible directly to the Minister?—Yes.

“Which of these two systems do you prefer?—The Berlin system, on account of the principle, which is, that one person should have the entire management of the whole, if you can find a person who is qualified to fill the office.”

The Rev. Dr. Wellesley is asked—

“What would you substitute for that system?—I would substitute a single Director, and concentrate the chief management and responsibility in him.

“He would have the care of the Gallery, I suppose?—No, I mean that the chief management and responsibility should be concentrated in a Director; there should be under him special conservators for each department, for painting, for sculpture, and so on.

“What powers and responsibilities would you assign to the Chief Director?—He should have unlimited power; he should be a person in whom perfect confidence could be reposed.”

Sir C. Eastlake is equally emphatic in his recommendation. Mr. Hawkins introduces a new element into the proposal,—an element which is not adopted by the Parliamentary Committee in their Report, but is left to have its effect on the public mind, and to be taken up hereafter if the need arise and the suggestion find favour. Col. Mure asks the witness—

“Is it your opinion, from your long experience of the institution, that one Chief Director or Governor, who should be an intelligent man of business, and otherwise qualified, would be a better head of the department than a numerous body of Trustees, such as you now have?—I think it would be better, from the circumstances I have mentioned; we should have prompt access to such a person, we could get an immediate decision from him, and there would be a sort of uniformity in his decisions which you cannot expect to find in a Committee.

“What qualifications would you require for an officer of that kind, if there were an intention to constitute such an officer?—I should say that he ought to be a gentleman; thoroughly well educated; and of business-like habits.

“Do you think that he ought to be somewhat in the position of the gentlemen who officiate in that capacity at Paris, at Berlin, and at other establishments of a like nature on the Continent?—Yes; but I am not very well acquainted with what they do.

“Would you think it desirable that he should be in Parliament, either as a Peer or as an elected Member?—Certainly; as his duties would involve money questions, I should presume it would be almost necessary, or at all events, very desirable, that he should be in the House of Commons.”

—The same topic is glanced at in the evidence of Lord Aberdeen.—

“I believe that you are aware that in several of the neighbouring countries, as in France and Prussia, the whole of the art collections are placed under one supreme head, not an artist, but a nobleman or gentleman of high attainments in those matters, in whom the country has confidence?—Yes, I believe so, a sort of minister; but in a country where there

is the same freedom of discussion that there is here, I should not envy the person occupying such a position.

“If the system were placed on a more regular footing than at present, and if there were a paid management with a more definite responsibility, does not your Lordship think, that the occasional expression of public opinion might come to be neutralized to a certain degree by the thing being placed like any other department of Government, on such more specific footing?—I think it might be certainly improved, and I am far from objecting to a public expression of opinion; I think also that discussion in the House of Commons is exceedingly useful on such matters, as leading to a more minute and active control than has existed.

“Your Lordship probably considers it desirable that the public mind, even if sometimes a little excited, should become alive to and interested in matters connected with the fine arts?—There cannot be a doubt about that.”

The Recommendations of the Committee marked 7 and 8 refer to the future picture-purchases of the nation.—

“7. That every recommendation for the purchase of a picture should originate with the Director, and be made in writing to the Trustees. 8. That a fixed sum should be annually proposed to Parliament for the purchase of pictures, and placed at the disposal of the Trustees.”

The Committee are aware that here lies one of their great difficulties. “The most important duty attached to the management,” they write, “in whatever mode it may be constituted; and the one involving the greatest amount of responsibility, seems to be generally admitted to be that of picture-purchasing.” At present, however, there is no fund at the disposal of the Trustees. From the birth of the Gallery to the present day—as Lord Aberdeen in his evidence [answer to Question 5294] states—there has never been a single farthing at the discretionary disposal of the officers. Opinions varied greatly as to the propriety of voting a fixed sum of money;—men whose views were turned more exclusively to Art-interests being more favourably disposed to this plan than statesmen whose first consideration very naturally was the state of the national exchequer. The former opinions, however, prevailed with the Committee, as our readers see by the Recommendation No. 8.

The next Recommendation refers to the vexed question of site. In No. 9, the Committee aver:—

“That the site of the present National Gallery is not well adapted for the construction of a new Gallery.”

—This decision is the one which appears to have given most trouble to the Committee. The care with which they sought out facts bearing on the inquiry, the patience with which they heard and re-heard all opinions, and the judicial clearness with which conflicting statements were by them contrasted and compared, are beyond praise. The case against the existing site—in the face of those ulterior changes of scheme which have lately occupied the public attention—appears to us complete and unimpeachable. If we are, as a nation, to organize our Art-treasures—put our Art-antiquities into such a state of classification and arrangement as will enable them to illustrate our history or the history of other countries—and dispose of the works of genius which we possess so as to assist in the intellectual growth and refinement of our people;—in effect, if we are ever to combine in one building, or in a group of associated buildings, our several collections of Art and Antiquities, then must we have a structure vastly larger and better adapted for the preservation of such treasures from the influences of damp and smoke than the ground in Trafalgar Square would hold. In the first place, this particular site has not sufficient space. On this head the Committee report:—

"That structure was completed in the year 1837; and the pictures were removed to the portion of it allotted to the collection in 1838. It has long been found altogether inadequate for its purpose. Even were the portion of it now occupied by the Royal Academy, to be made over to the Trustees, although sufficient accommodation might probably be obtained for the present collection, little, if any, space would remain for future augmentations. The enlargement of the site would be attended with unusual expense and difficulty. The property of the institution is limited to the ground on which it stands. Of the two contiguous properties, the barracks to the north-west, and the workhouse to the north-east, the former cannot be acquired on any terms. The latter, perhaps, might be purchased, but at a cost disproportionate to the means of extension which it would afford."

In Mr. Pennethorne's evidence we read.—

"Do you consider that any suitable edifice could be erected in that situation without getting possession of the whole space occupied by those two other establishments?—I do not think you would be able to erect a gallery so large as it ought to be without both the barracks and the workhouse."

"This plan contemplates taking both?—Yes. * * It may be as well to state that the result of a rough estimate, which I have made is, that the mere obtaining possession of the site of the workhouse with the houses and the barracks, would in all probability cost 160,000*l.*, and that the cost of erecting the Gallery at the back would be probably another 160,000*l.*; then there would be alterations necessary to be made in the present building, perhaps also compensation to the Royal Academy, if they were removed, and possibly the buying up the Baths and Washhouses and steam-engine of waterworks. I think, on the whole, you would not erect a building of the size shown on that block plan for less than 400,000*l.*"

—So much for the cost—even to obtain an imperfect and insufficient structure—the barracks not being obtainable on any terms. Then, as to the question of eligibility in other respects. The Committee state that,—

"even could the whole of the requisite area be obtained on reasonable terms, the adaptation of a building on that site for a Gallery of Paintings would be questionable. The spot certainly possesses in a high degree the merits of being central and accessible; but the Commission appointed in 1850 to report on the state of the pictures, expressed an opinion adverse to the construction of a new Gallery in the same situation, chiefly on account of its exposure to smoke, dust, idle crowds, and other influences unfavourable to the preservation of pictures. The report of that Commission was partially adopted by the Committee of the House which sat in the same year. Complaints, however, have since been made by a portion of the public favourable to the present site of the Gallery, that the question as to its relative merits and disadvantages had not been thoroughly sifted. Your Committee have, therefore, considered it their duty to enter fully into that question; and the result of their examination of numerous witnesses has been to induce them to adhere to the view of the Committee of 1850, and to recommend the removal of the Gallery to some more suitable locality."

The amount of evidence taken on this single point would fill a volume. In character, this evidence is exceedingly various; and the advocates of a Gallery in Trafalgar Square maintain that that site has all manner of absurd and contradictory advantages over every other in London. Mr. Faraday's evidence, given with all the caution of a philosopher, is very important as to the injurious effect of certain gases, bad air, dirt, and smoke, on the surface of pictures. On the question of removal to a new locality, Mr. Faraday is asked—

"Do you consider that the pictures, if they were removed to a site in the neighbourhood, but at some little distance from London, would be so much less exposed to the injurious influences to which they are now subject; as to effect a decided improvement in the present appearance and in the future preservation of the pictures?—That would depend upon the site chosen; you might go further from London

and get into a worse atmosphere; you might get more sulphuretted hydrogen if, for instance, you were near gas-works, though you would have less dust, dirt, and nuisance of other kinds than you have at present."

"Of course I do not speak of a place, where there are volumes of smoke coming from a particular work; but, generally speaking, do you consider that the pictures, if the site of the Gallery were in the environs of London, to the westward, would be in a finer state of preservation than they could be in the centre of the town?—I think that if you went towards the west, taking particular care in selecting the locality, you might get into a better situation."

Baron de Klenze's opinion on the bad effects of coal gas on pictures is very decided. The question is put to him.—

"The climate of St. Petersburg is the worst possible climate for pictures, is it not?—Without any doubt."

"Do they burn coals at St. Petersburg?—No, they do not; but I have observed that the public monuments, both of marble and bronze, are affected by the smoke in the same way as they are in London; and although in St. Petersburg they burn nothing but wood, this wood, being of a very resinous nature, emits a great quantity of smoke; but I have never observed that it has had any effect on pictures, because it does not contain sulphur; this is a remark that I have made to carry out my idea that it is the smoke from coal only which has a deleterious effect on pictures."

Afterwards Col. Mure returns to the subject, and elicits a strong opinion from the Baron on the site of Trafalgar Square.—

"In your Paper of Suggestions you have expressed yourself in a decided manner as to the defects of the present situation of our National Gallery?—Yes."

"Do you see any possibility under the circumstances of constructing an edifice in that situation which would be properly adapted to its purpose?—No."

Equally strong is the evidence of Sir C. Eastlake.—

"Are you of opinion that the situation of the Gallery and the influences to which it is exposed are so serious as to entail such a constant accumulation of dirt as to require cleaning, in the stronger sense of the term, from time to time?—I think the pictures will get more and more dirty where they now are."

"You gave an opinion in 1850, I think, as to the desirableness of a change in some way or other as regards the site of the Gallery in consequence of these influences?—Yes."

"Does that opinion remain?—Quite so."

"Has it been further confirmed?—Yes; I think the pictures are likely to get extremely dirty in their present situation; but still I would not recommend them to be cleaned at present."

"Do you think that with a more spacious building, better means of ventilation, more room for the pictures, and also for visitors, and, in short, making use of all the precautions that could be adopted, the present site might be well adapted for the National Gallery, in spite of the influences to which you have adverted?—No; because I do not think you could exclude the smoke, and that is the chief cause of the dirty state of the pictures."

We do not flatter ourselves that these authorities will convince the more zealous advocates of the existing site that their position is untenable. But we do imagine that the outside public will follow the safe guidance of years, experience, and matured knowledge on such subjects; and that the same weight of logic and authority under which the Recommendations of the Committee were framed will produce conviction in the public mind.

Recommendation No. 10 affects the choice of a new site. The Committee report—

"That the estate at Kensington Gore, purchased by the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851, and by them offered to the nation, presents many of the advantages recommended by the witnesses before your Committee. The position which has been suggested at the extremity of Kensington Gardens, would afford a better guarantee for the

future protection of the works of Art there collected, from the evils incident to a crowded neighbourhood, and would improve the opportunity of erecting an edifice worthy of the purpose; but your Committee are fully aware that the acquisition of such a site is attended with difficulties they see no adequate means of removing; and, in consequence, they are prepared to recommend the acceptance of the offer of the Commissioners."

The decision in favour of Kensington Gore estate was not arrived at except through a laborious process of inquiry and comparison,—the points of which the public can now trace for themselves. The result of our examination of the arguments for and against is, a conviction that the Committee have come to a sound and judicious conclusion. Several other sites were suggested to them, the several merits and defects of which were duly balanced. To quote the words of the Report:—

"The first is that suggested by Sir Charles Eastlake in his evidence before the Committee of 1850, also by witnesses examined by this Committee. It is nearly in the centre of the wide expanse of forest and pleasure ground comprised under the names of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens, at the extremity of the vista in front of Kensington Palace, and near the sunk brick wall which separates the Gardens from the Old Deer Park. Two other sites in Kensington Gardens were recommended by the Commission appointed in 1850, to examine and report on the localities best adapted to the proposed object. One of these is nearly in the centre of the north side of the Gardens, fronting the Bayswater Road; the other is near the northern extremity of the west side of the Gardens. A fourth site has been suggested by Mr. Pennethorne, partly in Kensington Gardens and partly adjoining to the turnpike at Kensington; that is, upon the site of the small barracks, and where Rotten Row comes into the Kensington Road. Another site is that proposed by the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851. It forms the upper or northern extremity of the ground lately purchased by them at Kensington Gore, with the view generally of affording sites for public institutions of Science and Art, and fronts to the Knightsbridge Road. The first site here suggested, although combining the advantages of an airy situation, good soil, and a convenient distance, would be liable to the objection of the appropriation of a central portion of Hyde Park to a public building, and the necessity which would arise of opening up the drives on each side to hackney carriages. The sites proposed by the Commission of 1850 possess the advantage of freedom of space and air on the Kensington Garden side; but on the remaining sides are exposed, by the contiguity of the high road, and of suburbs and houses, to smoke and other noxious influences."

The fourth proposal, that of Mr. Pennethorne, enjoys some advantages over the others here named and rejected:—but there is the fatal objection to it that it takes away a large portion of the Park,—a loss to which it is doubtful whether the public would submit on any terms. The Kensington Gore estate lies under none of these disadvantages. It is fair to state that some of the Committee abstained from the recommendation of this site to Parliament. It is, however, next to impossible to resist the weight of testimony in favour of this removal:—it being taken for granted, as we think it must be, that the centre of Hyde Park is not obtainable for the buildings, roads, grounds, and dwellings which would be required for such a purpose.

The question of raising a grand structure, or group of structures, at Kensington Gore will duly come under discussion in the House of Commons, with these specific Recommendations as text—together with the suggestion here thrown out for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the desirableness of combining the Art-collections of the British Museum with those of the National Gallery. The evidence taken on this last point is incomplete:—but so far as it goes, it is in accordance

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with views long urged in these columns. Lord Aberdeen is asked:—

"Has your Lordship, with your long experience in matters of antiquity and fine art, turned your attention to the question which has been agitated of late years, as to the desirability of combining our Art-collections in one repository?—I think, on the whole, that as far as ornamental art is concerned, that must be desirable, but I think there are objections to removing some things from the Museum; in the first place, the practical objections are considerable in the way of moving the mass of marble that is there collected; I also think there are other objects there which perhaps are more appropriately placed in the Museum than fit to be removed elsewhere; for instance, inscriptions, coins, and various objects connected with literature more than with art; I do not know that there would be any advantage in moving them two or three miles distant.

"Where anything like a palpable distinction can be drawn between antiquity and the fine arts, your Lordship is of opinion that it would be desirable to keep the antiquities in the Museum?—I think so; it would be a great advantage to literature their being there, and it would be none to art to remove them."

Col. Mure, we find, is in favour of this combination. The reason for such a combination is three-fold:—it is the natural arrangement—it is necessary in order to save the pictures and marbles from deterioration—and it is required by the over-crowded state of the Museum. On all these points the evidence, though incomplete, is ample. Mr. Hamilton speaks to the gradual deterioration of the Elgin Marbles.—

"Then you think, with a view of preserving the Elgin marbles, it would be desirable that they should be removed to some site more favourable for their preservation?—I am decidedly of opinion that they ought; I do not say that, with reference to the state in which they may be ten years hence; we must look forward to 100 or 150 years. But they do get blacker and blacker every year.

"Have they changed colour very much since they were first brought to the Museum?—There is almost as much difference in them as there is between black and white; some parts of the frieze which have lately been brought from the country, belonging to Mr. Smith Barry, and which have been added to the collection that was there before, look like white spots."

Mr. Panizzi testifies to the want of space in his department.—

"You have heard what Mr. Hawkins has said with regard to the want of space in the British Museum?—Yes.

"You yourself have proposed, have you not, a plan for remedying the evil?—I have, because I have found that the inconvenience to the library for want of sufficient space is greater in its effects than to other departments in the British Museum; inasmuch as, if we fall into arrears, to supply those arrears when a library has got to the extent ours is now, and to keep it up, is a matter of impossibility. We have now 510,000 volumes. I had occasion to ascertain the exact numbers very recently. If we fall into arrears for five or six years, and have, say, 150,000 volumes to buy for those years, and if we are to go on purchasing afterwards such works as are being published then, and if we have, moreover, to obtain the arrears of old times, it would be a matter of impossibility to carry all this out properly. It is of great importance, to scientific men particularly, to know what is being done in science, and therefore to have at once those books that are last published. A book published now and purchased five years hence is of a totally different value from the same book purchased at this time. For these reasons it was suggested by me, after having suggested a larger scheme of building some years ago, that, as the matter was pressing, we ought to have a building erected in the quadrangle of the British Museum."

Taking this document as a whole—minutes, records, evidence, appendices—we never saw a case more logically made out and more thoroughly sustained. To resume its chief contents and recommendations in a few words:—it is established before the Committee and adopted

by them:—1. That a certain sum of money ought to be set aside by Parliament yearly for the purchase of works of Art;—2. That a great structure, worthy of the country, should be erected as a National Gallery;—3. That the site in Trafalgar Square is not adapted for such a structure;—and, 4. That, taking its unquestionable merits with its possible defects, the site at Kensington Gore, offered to the nation by the Royal Commissioners, ought to be accepted and the new structures raised thereon. So far all is clear and satisfactory.

In recommending the country to remove its galleries from Trafalgar Square, the Committee express "an anxious hope that Government will not lose sight of its great value." Little fear is there of that, we think. The Royal Academy is there:—the Academy that should be a National Academy. Next week, we will endeavour to examine the conditions on which the Royal Academy may become in reality the important institution that it is now in appearance.

Memoirs of the Princess Palatine Princess of Bohemia; including her Correspondence with the Great Men of her Day, and Memoirs of the Court of Holland under the Princes of Orange. By the Baroness Blaze de Bury. Bentley.

THE subject of this volume, Elizabeth, one of the many children of Frederic of Bohemia and Elizabeth the Queen of Hearts, daughter of James the First, has hitherto been principally known as a chief actor in an episode in the life of William Penn. When the French enthusiast Labadie was wandering, with Anna Maria Schürmann and the rest of his little company of converts, from city to city, followed by outeries and opposition, the Princess Elizabeth received the persecuted band into her Abbey of Herford. There, in spite of clamour and remonstrance from her own little knot of subjects and from the Princes of Germany, she yielded the Labadists home and shelter. Some writers tell us that she became herself a convert to Labadie's doctrines; in any event, she permitted his followers to indulge freely in a variety of peaceful but somewhat unorthodox practices, founded on opinions verging in many points towards Quakerism. Delighted by such a proof of religious liberality, the Quakers strove to open up friendly communications with the Princess. Penn wrote her a long letter of sympathy and good advice; and, encouraged by a kind reply, he determined to pay her a visit. In 1677 the Quaker hero and some of the choicest spirits amongst the early Friends were received with honour at Herford. They held religious meetings in the presence of the Princess, fully explained to her their doctrine of the light within, and, finally, Penn entertained the Princess and her companions by a recital of his experiences,—“the story of his life from year to year.” The narrative won upon the hearts of the hearers. What Burnet terms Penn's “Inscious” way of talking so effectually excited the feelings of the Princess, that at their parting, she fell, says Penn, into “an extraordinary passion,” in which she cried, “I cannot speak to you, my heart is full,” clapping her hands upon her breast. “It melted me,” continues Penn, “into a deep and calm tenderness, in which I was moved to minister a few words softly to her, and after some time of silence she recovered herself.” For a beginning this seemed promising. But little came of it. A few letters passed between the Princess and her Quaker Mentor, and she secured a posthumous niche in “No Cross no Crown”; but if really inclined to Quaker views, which Penn's narrative would almost lead us to infer, considerations of family and position with-

held her from any open declaration of her opinions.

The present authoress is somewhat scandalized at this portion of the Princess's history, and does not dwell with pleasure on details which seem to us to contain a clue to the whole character of the Princess. The Baroness de Bury prefers rather to look back to an earlier period, when this same lady sat at the feet of a teacher of a very different class—the philosophical Descartes. Like all men who will think for themselves, Descartes met with persecution from the ministers of the infallible Church, and, although still professedly a Roman Catholic, sought shelter in Protestant Holland. Charles the First was ready to receive him with honour into England, but the breach between King and Parliament prevented the completion of an arrangement which would have been creditable to both parties. Our authoress shall tell us what kind of life he led in Holland.—

“It is certain that if the novelty, the depth, and the truth of Descartes' philosophical ideas were calculated to strike all elevated and unprejudiced minds, there was also much in his own individuality that could not fail in prepossessing in his favour all those who made his personal acquaintance. Sorbière, who was no Cartesian, and whose testimony is, therefore, impartial, has left the following description of the man, of whom he says:—‘du reste, c'est un des plus grands hommes de notre siècle,’ and whose company he used to seek constantly, whilst the near neighbourhood of Leyden and Eyndegeest put the philosopher and the doctor within a walk of one another.—‘As soon as I was fixed in Holland in 1642, I hurried off to Eyndegeest, half-an-hour from Leyden, on the Warmout side. Here I rejoiced in seeing Descartes in his solitude, and tried hard to arrive at a comprehension of his philosophy.... I used always to admire this nobleman's politeness, his modest reserve, and the manner of his life. He inhabited a small château in a beautiful position, at the very gates of the famous University of Utrecht, three hours from the Court, and not two from the sea. He had a vast number of servants, all picked and chosen men, and all good-looking; a nice garden, with meadows and clumps of trees in the background, and high church spires rising up against the horizon. He could, from this place, go in one day by water to Utrecht, Delft, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, Haarlem, and Amsterdam. It was easy for him to spend the half-day at the Hague, and return to his own home afterwards; and to do this, he had but to saunter along the fairest road imaginable, through meadows and in front of country houses, and then through a wood that borders on the Hague itself. This town can certainly compare with the first towns in Europe, and in my time was proud of possessing three Courts: firstly, the Court of the Prince of Orange, a military Court, where might be seen above two thousand noblemen and their suite of soldiers, decked out in buff doublets, with orange scarfs, high boots, and long sabres, and who were this Court's chief ornament; secondly, the Court of the States-General, full of provincial deputies and burgomeisters, and representatives of the aristocracy, in black velvet coats, broad collars, and square beards; lastly, the Court of the Queen of Bohemia, which seemed that of the Graces, seeing that she had four daughters, at whose feet all the *beau monde* of the Hague came to depose their homage, and whose talents, beauty, and virtues, were the subject of all men's talk. The eldest princess had no greater joy, however, than to listen to the readings of M. Descartes.'”

Descartes brought his young royal pupil before the eyes of the world by dedications and letters couched in the highest style of compliment. If it be really true that she enjoyed the distinction unattainable by any other woman, and scarcely attained by any man, of actually understanding the writings of her great teacher, she must have deserved many of the praises heaped upon her; but we would venture to observe, that this mark of superiority, ordinarily assigned to her on the authority of Descartes

himself, is not quite justified by his actual words as translated in the book before us. The writer says:—"I never yet met any one who has *so well* [not perfectly] understood all that is contained in my writings." The whole passage is an outpouring of the most outrageous flattery, and this little "so well" was probably one of the qualifications by which Descartes appeased his conscience.

There is no doubt that the Princess Elizabeth was a lady of very unusual talent. The misfortunes of her house were instrumental in condemning her to a life of celibacy, whilst its traditions enlarged her mind and opened her heart to the reception of liberal and free opinions. Living in exile in Holland, at a time when theology was the ordinary food of every inquiring mind, she naturally gave her best attention to the deep mysteries of Calvinism and Arminianism. Following the great leaders of her ancestral House of Orange, she adopted the former set of opinions, and strove in vain to bring round the "docile" Descartes, as the present authoress deems him to have been, to her ways of thinking. The difference between the Princess and her philosophical friend on this vital point was fomented by some little female weakness in reference to the influence of other ladies, and especially of Christina of Sweden, over his mind, and ultimately, but without any breach of friendship between himself and the Princess Elizabeth, the philosopher betook himself to Sweden, where he died.

The peace which restored the Palatinate family to Heidelberg threw new duties upon the Princess Elizabeth, in the family of her brother, the Elector Palatine,—and ultimately, in 1667, when marriage was out of the question, she was appointed abbess of a Protestant convent at Herford. There she spent the remainder of her days, in the patronage of mystics and the assertion of her rights as the mimic sovereign of a small German principality.—She died in 1680, at the age of sixty-two.

The present writer overpraises the Princess in the early part of her life, and treats her too sharply when, in its decline, she came to favour Labadists and Quakers. In our view, the beginning and the end were perfectly consistent. At twenty she listened with pleasure to the studied and extravagant flattery of the calm, courtly, intellectual Descartes; when between fifty and sixty she was excited to rapture by the hearty and affectionate appeals of such men as Labadie and Penn. The former addressed the head, the latter the heart. Both were successful, and naturally so. But the author, to whose sex on such a question we owe no little deference, shall explain her own view of the matter.—

"I grow so dreamy (*rêveux*) in my old age, that I fancy I may become as dreamy as my aunt, Princess Elizabeth of Herford, who was in infancy in her latter years," writes Elizabeth Charlotte of Orleans, the daughter of the Elector Charles Louis; and in these words, perhaps, lies the only real appreciation possible of the abbess's conduct. Of a constitution naturally delicate, and eminently inclined to be what our neighbours call *impressionnable*, the Princess Palatine, when came the desire for spiritual consolation, fell, as we have seen, into the snares of the first impostor who presented himself, and adored there, where the simplest elements of Christianity (whether Protestant or Catholic) should have taught her to condemn. Her niece's opinion is the true one; the Princess Elizabeth had sunk into a dreamy, unsettled state of mind, when scarcely beyond the meridian of life; and we may seek in vain, in the Abbess of Herford, for the high-soaring, bright intelligence that shone so serenely over the Courts of Berlin and Heidelberg, and made the Hague a spot whither, from all European countries, tended the pilgrims of intellect. The friend of Descartes, the 'Wonder of the North,' is no more, and there

remains instead, a mystical, weak-witted, self-willed matron, equally wanting the calm proud dignity that accompanies self-conscious intelligence of the highest order, and the mild assured serenity which is the result of religious conviction alone. It is curious to observe how often those who in youth have shown but comparatively slight marks of resemblance to their parents, exhibit in maturer age all the points of what are termed 'family likenesses.' It is, however generally, not by their qualities, but by their common defects, that such resemblances are recognized; and thus it was with the Princess Palatine: whilst from her father she unmistakably borrowed a moral indecision, of which she had hitherto never manifested any sign, she took from her mother much of that restless, querulous pride, which (as is often the case with far-famed beauties) rendered Elizabeth Stuart's old age so different from what royal old age should be. In her own family (that is, in what remained of it), it would seem that the idea entertained of the Abbess of Herford was very much what we have attempted to convey; and the wittiest of her sisters, Sophia of Hanover, notwithstanding the sincere love she bore to Elizabeth, does not appear to have spared her comments and sarcasms, even upon whatever struck her as absurd. The very scandal attendant upon Labadie's name, on the one hand, and, on the other, the fame of his holiness spread abroad by his disciples, attracted numbers of the surrounding princes and their families, who came, self-invited, to visit the Abbess of Herford, and—if the truth must be told—amuse themselves a little at her expense, and at that of her extraordinary guests."

The book contains many particulars respecting the Palatine family not generally known to English readers, but very important to English history. At its commencement, too, will be found some interesting and valuable matter relating to "Father William" as he is still reverently termed,—the great Prince of Orange. This information, derived from the 'Archives of the House of Orange,'—a work with which few persons in this country are acquainted,—will amply repay perusal. The style has some few blemishes, but they are trifles in comparison with the value the book derives from its suggestive character, as well as from its positive information.

From Mayfair to Marathon. Bentley.

THIS volume—part journal, part sketch, part fiction—takes us in rather an agreeable manner through the best known parts of France and Italy. Mayfair and Marathon are mere pretences; probably not the only pretences in the book. The author seems constantly trying to appear in a character foreign to him,—sometimes as one excessively fashionable, sometimes as one excessively humble. He gives so many hints at the outset of his "first-class" travelling propensities, that we fancy he may have sometimes found the second-class somewhat cheaper and quite as comfortable; but then he afterwards represents himself as quite a common personage, treated with contempt by the mistress of the English reading-room at Naples. He talks a good deal, also, about "the best of wives," and becomes in one place so enthusiastic that we are led to doubt the lady's existence. This expression, by the way, is a specimen of the sort of humour in which our author indulges. Most readers of this book will complain of the constant introduction, not only of French words, but of entire sentences, not given so as to lead us to suppose that they flow naturally from the pen. The experiences in Paris and in Touraine are rendered less interesting than they might have been by an artifice intended to produce a great impression. The writer affects familiarity with French politics and manners,—whereas at every step he is learning as he goes, and learning chiefly from the worst possible source—the hap-hazard conversation of discontented persons. The story of the owner of a château

in Touraine being obliged to stand a siege against the peasantry three years ago is evidently an invention; and we fear that the same must be said of nearly all the illustrations here given of French life and opinions. When we come to Marseilles, we find additional proof that our traveller is young in experience, otherwise none of the tribulations he relates need have come to pass. No one who has been that way before, or indeed abroad at all, with any knowledge of languages and any powers of observation, need have been victimized in the way here described. As a specimen of our author's manner—a manner somewhat gay, off-hand, and amiable, but wanting in depth of thought and in the higher graces of style—take the following scene in Naples. A master would have made it very striking: as it is, we have the material and the suggestion of a picture rather than the picture itself.—

"We find ourselves, after a little while, before the Theatre St. Carlo, and are surprised to see a troop of cavalry picquetted before the doors, and some idle persons still lounging about. Why, it is just one in the morning! Let us inquire what is going on. There is a masked-ball, and we will look in to see it. A masked-ball at Naples, in high Carnival, *must* be worth a visit, in spite of what we heard. Paying about three shillings to a grave money-taker, and a little surprised at the silence which reigns, we take our way up the fine staircases, and see with pain and repugnance, that they are bristling with soldiers. The theatre is magnificent; hundreds and hundreds of lights glittering everywhere, as in a fairy palace, and two military bands, I declare! It looked like a very temple of revelry! But, bless my heart, my public! you see it is quite empty. We counted, you know, one hundred and ten soldiers and policemen about the building, beside the cavalry outside. There they are, moustachioed up to the eyes, and armed with swords, and guns, and bayonets, and cocked hats, filling every vista and girding every doorway. Of guests there are *just seven!* Seven in the whole of that immense building! Three persons, dressed something like the clowns at Astley's, are walking about; two arm-in-arm and one alone. There is another man in a black domino not unlike a funeral cloak (probably a traveller), and two young Englishmen, talking about Vesuvius and standing in the doorway, which with us, my public, makes up the seven: for you are invisible. The hands pipe feebly away one after the other, and every now and then an excitable person, belonging to the police establishment, comes in to see if any of us have got on a great-coat which he could take away and imprison. The check-taker also, having nothing to do, comes in, with his wide-awake and comforter on, and we begin to talk to him. 'Is the ball over?'—'No, it has not begun!'—'When will it begin?'—The check-taker smiles, and with an almost imperceptible movement, which we follow, indicates a placard, wafered up over his head, and dated 'Prefecture of Police,' which lets us into the secret at once. The Neapolitans have altered their national savoury pie into plain boiled veal, and now nobody will eat it. They have taken the salt from their banquet and people sup elsewhere. I think the placard forbade every possible thing which could give zest or animation to an amusement of which the Italians were the originators, and are proverbially fond. There was a long list of characters it was unlawful to assume—a longer one of things it was unlawful to say. No wonder the scene was so dead: not a jest, not a laugh, from any one of those seven dreary individuals the whole hour I stayed. I stayed an hour because I wished to see it out, and it was not till the two clowns disappeared and the Englishmen went to redeem their great-coats that I turned to leave the two solitary remaining guests to their own reflections. I was, of course, stopped at the staircase by a bayonet—it was not the way out; I must take the right staircase, not the left. I must go round, and I did so, listening to the solitary echo of my own boots across the deserted boards."

The merits of this volume are cheerfulness and ease,—merits in favour of which an air of

literary foppishness will doubtless be forgiven by certain classes of readers.

The Positive Philosophy of Auguste Comte.
Freely Translated and Condensed by Harriet Martineau. Chapman.

Comte's Philosophy of the Sciences. By G. H. Lewes. Bohn.

WE agree with Mr. Lewes, when, in answer to Sir William Hamilton's remark, that "Comte is somewhat unaccountably taken up in England just as he is being given up in France," he says that "a system of philosophy is supremely independent of its temporary acceptance or rejection in France or elsewhere;—our question is simply, Is it true?" As regards the value of the system itself, "Is it true?" is beyond a doubt the only question of importance. When, however, we begin to award our thanks to the kind propagator of truth, wishing neither to be too niggardly nor too lavish in our commendations, —we have a right to ask another question, namely, "Is the system new as well as true?" Admitting that we are indebted, we have a right to make ourselves clear as to who is our benefactor. Robert Simson and Legendre have been important agents in diffusing a knowledge of geometry among the youth of England and France, but we must not confound their merits with those of the geometers of antiquity.

Let us begin by awarding to M. Comte what to us seems unquestionably his due. According to a certain fixed plan, he has arranged the results of scientific investigation in every department, so as to present his readers with a compendious view of the state of science as it existed at the time when his book was published. We will here enter into no controversy as to the degree of accuracy with which each department is treated. Let the professors of the various departments give their suffrages, each according to his profession; we may, in the meanwhile, anticipate or ignore their verdict, and allow hypothetically that M. Comte is a valuable historian of science. It is not as a master of chemistry or physiology in particular that his enthusiastic disciples herald him forth to the world;—but as the founder of a school,—that is to say, as a man who has laid down a broad, comprehensive system of his own, by which science may be advantageously classed or forwarded,—and a new science, Sociology, may be advanced into the same rank with Astronomy.

Now, what is it that M. Comte has really invented,—nay, what subject has he regarded from a novel point of view? Of course he is not, nor does he pretend to be, the originator of Induction; yet if he is not that, what *is* he save—as we have said—a simple historian of science?

His fundamental theory is, that each branch of human knowledge passes through three different theoretical conditions,—the theological, the metaphysical, and the scientific. In the first of these, the human mind, seeking for final causes, supposes all phenomena to be produced by the immediate action of supernatural beings;—in the metaphysical state, the mind substitutes for the supernatural beings veritable entities capable of producing all phenomena;—in the third, last and best state, it gives over the search after the vanities belonging to its earlier conditions, and applies to an examination of the *laws* of phenomena. This very theory is an illustration of the merits of M. Comte as an historian of the researches and ideas of others. Every one knows that there is a state of humanity in which every phenomenon of nature is ascribed to a supernatural agent, so that the thunder has its Jove and the tree its

Dryad. Every one who has looked at the history of science is aware of the fact, that there has been a frequent tendency to set up abstractions of the intellect as real entities, and to use them in explanation of phenomena.—But the exposure of this fallacious method is not due to M. Comte; on the contrary, it has been the constant object of attack, with the German school, from Kant down to Hegel. M. Comte's merit is simply this, that he has, with a talent for which the French are proverbial, reduced what was perfectly familiar to every philosophical student into a neat and comprehensive formula.

But, after all, is it so very certain that M. Comte has so completely got rid of the objectionable metaphysical entities as he imagines? "The first characteristic of the 'Positive Philosophy' [we quote Miss Martineau's version] is, that it regards all phenomena as subjected to invariable laws. Our business is—seeing how vain is any research into what are called causes, whether first or final—to pursue an accurate discovery of these laws, with a view to reducing them to the smallest possible number." We are to get rid of "causes" because they are metaphysical entities; but we are to accept "invariable laws" because they smack of Positivism. All this looks like a sort of incomplete Kantism. Immanuel Kant, by an *à priori* system, came to the same conclusion as M. Comte, that we cannot pass beyond the region of phenomena and arrive at the true essence of things; asserting, at the same time, that the *nexus* of cause and effect has nothing to do with the things themselves (*Dinge an sich*), but is a mere form of the intellect. This subjective theory, as far as we can understand, is repudiated by M. Comte; he detests the doctrine that "man is the measure of all things,"—he is what in the days of Kant and Fichte would have been called a dogmatist. What, then, does he suppose his invariable laws to be, that they are so very *positive* and so little *metaphysical*? Mr. G. H. Lewes evidently sees the same difficulty that we do in these same "laws," and is anxious to put "method" in their place. Thus, the "laws" in the science of mechanics are "nothing but the paths, or methods, along which the forces move." We fear we do not get much by the change. "Invariable laws"—"invariable paths"—"invariable methods"—call them what you will—if these mean anything beyond the Kantian forms of thought, we cannot see that they are in any better position than the old-fashioned, much-abused entities of the earlier metaphysicians.

Miss Harriet Martineau, who comes before the English public as a new patroness of the "Positive Philosophy," and has condensed M. Comte's six bulky tomes into two—bulky still,—says in her Preface that "theologians and metaphysicians must necessarily abhor, dread, and despise his work." These are strong terms. With the theologians we have nothing to do. By the articles of our constitution we are bound to refer them to some other field of battle than our columns. But with regard to the metaphysicians, we think we may venture to say, in their name, that they have no particular reason to regard M. Comte's teaching with especial dread or abhorrence. The more they investigate him, the more will they be convinced that he is a very harmless and extremely diffuse retailer of other men's theories, and much more one of their own body than he seems to imagine. That they may *despise* his system is not altogether so improbable. The fact is, he does not really meet any one great metaphysical question. How we arrive at universal propositions, seeing that they cannot be derived from individual experience, was the great question that set Kant a-thinking. M. Comte at once assumes his "in-

variable laws" as results of induction, without seeing any difficulty in the matter,—and insists on their invariability with as much zeal as the student believes in an *à priori* creed. And this is the adversary metaphysicians are told to dread!

The admirers of M. Comte lay great stress on his classification of the sciences, made on the principle of commencing with the study of the simplest phenomena, and proceeding necessarily to the most complex and particular. According to this principle, the order of science is as follows:—astronomy, physics, chemistry, biology (on physiology), and sociology,—with mathematics as a prelude. Nothing can be more unobjectionable or rational than this classification,—but we did not require the intervention of M. Comte to obtain it. Hegel's whole method is an ascent from the abstract to the concrete; and if we turn to the second part of his *Encyclopædia*, which came out thirteen years before M. Comte's *début*, we find the sciences arranged in precisely the same order as that which "Positive Philosophy" prescribes. Hegel begins with mechanics, which reaches its culminating point in astronomy,—then proceeds to physics, which terminates with chemistry,—and then comes to physiology. With animal organization he terminates his course of natural science,—and therefore it may be imagined that M. Comte was at least original in placing his "Sociology," that new branch of study, on the top of the other sciences. Alas! if we go on to the third part of Hegel's *Encyclopædia*, we shall find the chain so continued, that anthropology having duly succeeded mere zoology, man necessarily appears as a member of the "family" and the "state." Here, then, is M. Comte's progress from astronomy to sociology without one essential modification. Indeed, at the time of the Pietistic reaction against Hegel, it was even the outcry of the religious party that Hegel made the State the ultimate goal of all his philosophy. In M. Comte's sketch of what is ordinarily called the "Philosophy of History," but what he prefers to style "Social Dynamics," we still find the most unmistakable flavour of the Hegelian spring.

It may here, we admit, be remarked that, although Comte's classification of the sciences displays no great originality, the recommendation to use this classification as a means of reforming education, has at least the charm of novelty. Let us take, on account of its conciseness, Mr. Lewes's statement of M. Comte's views on this subject.—

"It is evident that before undertaking the methodical study of any one of the fundamental sciences, it is absolutely necessary to be prepared by an examination of such of them as refer to the phenomena, that go before it in the encyclopedical scale; since the latter always weightily influence those whose laws are to be the subject of study. If the remark is imminently applicable to general education, it is as much so to the special education of *savans*. The natural philosophers who have not in the first place studied astronomy at least under the general point of view;—the chemists who, before occupying themselves with their own science, have not previously studied astronomy and after it physics;—the physiologists who have not prepared themselves for their special labours by a preliminary study of astronomy, of physics, and of chemistry;—all want one of the fundamental conditions of their intellectual development. It is still more necessary in the case of those minds, who would devote themselves to the positive study of social phenomena, without having first acquired a general knowledge of astronomy, physics, chemistry, and physiology."

Now, the doctrine set forth in this passage seems to us pregnant with fallacy. Either it means a great deal too much, or it means something so little that it is not worth the trouble of indicating. We strongly suspect that two totally

different notions were floating in M. Comte's mind when he used his classification of the sciences as a basis for educational improvement.

If we look at the principle on which the classification is made, it amounts to this:—that the sciences placed highest in the list refer to those properties which belong to phenomena in general, and that as they descend the scale, they become more and more particular. Thus, all phenomena are susceptible of measurement, and may therefore be considered as subject to mathematical laws; all bodies, organized and unorganized, are affected by the laws of mechanics; the properties of the higher organized beings are held in common with those of lower organization; the existence of a society presupposes the existence of human beings, subject to the whole series of laws up to the most abstract mathematics and mechanics. Considering that we have thus a graduated scale of dependent phenomena, it seems plausible enough to assert that no phenomenon can be correctly studied without a knowledge of the classes that stand higher in the scale. However, even in the condensed statement of the doctrine which we have given above, Mr. Lewes has grazed against the fallacy of the whole. He says that natural philosophers should at first study astronomy, at least, under the general point of view. Why under only the general point of view? If astronomy has the precedence over other sciences, because the phenomena treated of in those sciences presuppose the solar system in which they take place, astronomy ought to be pursued to the very perfection of celestial mechanics, before a single other science is so much as looked at. Language, one of the extremest developments of organized natures, presupposes a being that ought systematically to be brought down through the whole chain of scientific categories before it obtains its attribute of speech:—and we might therefore argue that a boy should be a Herschel in astronomy, a Liebig in chemistry, an Owen in comparative anatomy,—before he takes an Eton grammar in his hand. That this absurdity is not meant by M. Comte, we know well enough; but, nevertheless, it is a legitimate consequence of the doctrine, that the order of study should follow the order of dependence in which the objects of study are manifested.

The more rational interpretation of the theory would be this, that as a course of mental discipline the study of the simpler should precede that of the more complex phenomena. Thus, it is held at Cambridge that mathematical study is the best discipline for the youthful mind, even where no practical application of the science is to be expected. But this point of view has nothing whatever to do with the dependence of the sciences; nor does it by any means follow that because a science belongs to the most complex in the order of phenomena, a training in the sciences which have a logical priority is to be regarded as indispensable. It seems to us, that the propounder of the new mode of ameliorating education is strangely confused between the theory of scientific dependence and the notion of mental discipline,—and that, moreover, he has not sufficiently reflected on the distinction between the dependence of phenomena and the dependence of the sciences which treat of them. The writer of an old-fashioned treatise on music, who contended that a musician should have a good knowledge of mineralogy because *harps and arpeggios* are made of metal, foreshadowed with tolerable clearness the views of M. Comte.

The highest felicity of mankind will, according to this doctrine, be attained when sociology becomes a positive science like astronomy:—that is, when the laws that regulate humanity

have been duly learned by careful observation, and the knowledge thus acquired is put into action. Granted:—but where is the profundity of the thing? It needed not a long course of "Positive Philosophy" to teach us, that the better we are acquainted with the sources of a malady the more likely we shall be to effect a cure. As for the idea that there is any novelty in applying the method of induction to the study of social phenomena, we cannot conceive how it has been entertained for a moment. Who ever doubted that mankind was governed by motives? Who ever generalized those motives save by an inductive process? How, save by such a process, have the characteristics of nations and their various influences been described by pens out of number, from the hard steel of the philosophical historian to the light crowquill of the lady-tourist? That new laws may be elicited by increased study of humanity, as by increased study of everything else, is probable enough—nay, certain,—but we cannot see that the propounding of this theory gives the slightest claim to the character of an original thinker.

In the bulky volumes of Miss Martineau, who has freely translated and condensed, and in the small volume of Mr. G. H. Lewes, who has briefly described the "Positive Philosophy," M. Comte is made accessible to many persons who would shrink with terror from the ponderous French edition. The variety of the author's acquirements, and the value which his book possesses as a systematic encyclopædia of science, entitle it to a place in every library of the higher class; though the belief that he is one of those original thinkers who mark epochs in the history of the human mind, seems to us one of the greatest delusions ever propagated by literary or philosophical fashion.

Cheshire: its Historical and Literary Associations, illustrated in a Series of Biographical Sketches. By T. W. Barlow, Esq. Kent & Co.

THIS little volume, devoted to the celebrated men of Cheshire, introduces us to a very miscellaneous company,—but among whom we find some names well worthy of remembrance. We have also some pleasant sketches of the old manor-houses and parks still remaining in the remoter parts, and notices of the families to which they belonged,—together with occasionally pleasant stories of a later time. In the notice of Sir Uryan Legh, a follower of the unfortunate Earl of Essex at the taking of Cadiz,—and whom tradition has asserted to be the veritable hero of that pretty ballad 'The Spanish Lady's Love,'—we have a sketch of Lyme Hall and its ancient park; and also a notice of the wild cattle which formerly pastured on the vast moorland track of which Lyme forms a part.—"At Lyme," as we read, "is preserved the original stock of that peculiar breed of mastiffs which take their name from the place, and are celebrated not only throughout Cheshire, but the whole kingdom, for their beauty and courage."

In the account of Sir William Brereton, the gallant Parliamentary general, we have that singular legend of Bagmere Lake, in which, as Camden relates, "is a thing exceeding strange, but attested in my hearing by many persons, and commonly believed. Before any heir of this family dies, there are seen in a lake adjoining, the bodies of trees swimming upon the water for many days together." Of this ominous lake very little now remains:—the waters, in the process of reclaiming the surrounding wastes, having been drained off. Mr. Barlow says, that in the drains made for that purpose he has observed the blackened remains of huge trunks of trees, which almost suggested the idea of a

submerged forest. This was doubtless the case; and the clearness with which the trees were sometimes seen in the still depths of the lake, was probably the origin of this singular superstition.

In the memoir of Colonel Robert Duckinfield, another bold Parliamentary soldier, who was active throughout the war, and to whom the Countess of Derby surrendered, we have an original letter addressed by him to Sir Samuel Luke, in April 1645. This letter is very valuable, as proving the culpable carelessness of the Parliament in regard to paying their soldiers, and the singular self-devotion, notwithstanding, of the officers.—

"Honorable Sir,—I was in hopes to have waited on you myself before this time, but y^e enemy hath been soe active lately as to keep mee in employment heree since they threaten these p^{ts}. Y^e necessity of my Regim^t of Troope compells mee to send y^e bearer hereof to London, to move for some pay for my men, who waite for a good answer by him speedily, otherwise they will disband. My Troope was y^e first served in these p^{ts} of y^e kingdom for y^e Part^l & have continued a compleate Troope above 2 yeares & a halfe until this present, for very little pay w^{ch} is upon account, for y^e last twelvemonth they have rec^d 215^s 14^d—from y^e publike & noe more, Sir W^m. Brereton allows his owne Troope double pay to y^e rest w^{ch} is contrary to an ordinance of Par^l especially my men having served so long, my Reg^t hath passed upon very hard duty for this twelvemonth, espiall y^e last winter at the seidge of Beeston Castle, and in Worral where many of my men were lost & maimed, for all which service they have rec^d but a month's pay & now they begin to mutiny & will breake presently, unless some competent meanes bee allowed y^m. Besides I have spent & lost 1000^l in this service & I have not rec^d yett y^e value of 6^d towards my owne pay. W^t Prisoners or prize hath been taken by my Soldiers I have made no advantage thereof, but it is set down in my accompts. Sir I desire you will be pleased to direct & assist y^e bearer hereof how to preferre y^e Petition to y^e Par^l in y^e behalfe of my Soldiers & myself, & y^t you would please to dispatch his businesse presently, to procure me some allowance for my past charges & pay already due for the maintenance of my Soldiers & Troope. I am very unwilling to have y^m disband, if y^e Par^l would please to take notice of their former service. This County has been so longe y^e seate of warre as it is now become poore and in a miserable condicon much occasioned by y^e sad divisions between Sir W^m. Brereton & y^e rest of o^r deputy Lt^s & Officers, which will grow worse every day untill some of y^m bee removed or reprov^d y^t are most in fault. I have sent W^m. Davenport further instructions & propositions to acquaint you with & to entreate y^e o^r direction how to make use of you. I intend to waite on you myself ere long, & desiring your pardon for my boldness to trouble you herein, I rest Y^e o^r kinsman to command

"ROBT. DUCKENFIELD."

Appended to this pleasant little volume is a short tract, entitled 'Providence Improved,' by Edward Burghall; and which is here reprinted from a very scarce Chester edition of King's 'Vale Royal.' Burghall was vicar of Acton; and this is his diary of the "Providences" which took place in his immediate neighbourhood from 1628 to 1663. Very curious and characteristic it is:—especially for the simple, homely pictures which it gives of a war among former neighbours and friends. The earlier portion is valuable, for the attestation which it supplies to the assertions of Puritan writers, as to the great demoralization of the "country folk," through the wakes and their attendant brawls and drunkenness. Here we have within two years instances of no less than five of the author's neighbours killed by accidents when drunk, in addition to the sad case of Mr. Wynne, of Whitechurch, who, "being drunk, drew his rapier, and run his own sister through, because she would have got him from the alehouse." Then there is a bear-bating in

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the churchyard, and the wall falls down:—and then, a drunken bearward "was cruelly rent in pieces by a bear." But the following entry is, we should hope, without a parallel in the county of Chester.—"1631. This year five aldermen of Macclesfield met at a tavern, and drank excessively of sack and *aqua vite*,—three of them died the next day, and the other two were dangerous sick." Well may Master Burghall add,—“Oh, that drunkards would learn to be wise!”

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Book of Celebrated Poems, containing Forty-three of the most popular Poems in the English Language unabridged. Illustrated by upwards of Eighty Engravings from Drawings by C. W. Cope, Kenny Meadows, G. Dodgson, and J. Ferguson. Low & Son.—This gift-book has an ambitious title. "Celebrated" and "most popular" are brave epithets, hardly fulfilled by a collection which—together with Milton's 'Comus,' and Dryden's 'Alexander's Feast,'—includes Dyer's 'Grongar Hill,' Ramsay's 'Tartana' (which the editor inconsistently remarks is "not much known in England"), and "Delta's" 'Casa Wappy' (!) This is, nevertheless, a handsomely printed book, liberally illustrated by woodcuts after designers, one of whom we meet too rarely,—another for the first time. The former is Mr. Kenny Meadows. Perhaps the reason of our meetings with him being of late few is told by his own pencil in such theatrical pieces of affectation as the two Ladies, page 33, illustrating a verse in 'The Floure and the Leafe,'—as his *Thais*, page 123, heading 'Alexander's Feast,' with the pointed toe and telegraphic finger of a ballet-dancer,—as in the Lady's knee, and the shadow of her head and arm, which make up the vignette that opens 'Cumnor Hall,'—as in the devices by which the fearful phantoms of 'The Ancient Mariner' are reduced to the level of pantomime masks. The above are all in their several ways such examples of exaggeration, that a single epithet must have collectively described them, did we not know of old that Mr. Meadows has a vein of fertile invention, fanciful grace, and quiet humour which had it been more carefully worked might have produced—might still produce—inventions to be collected with pleasure, instead of absurdities to be thrown aside without regret. Mr. Ferguson, who is new to us as a designer, exhibits a promising amount of fancy and versatility. But that he, too, must be warned against extravagance, his opening illustration to Blair's 'Grave' justifies us in asserting. Many a yew-tree have we sat under—but never one like his yew tree, the angular lines of which, it may be supposed, are meant to excite impressions of grimness and "horror." How impossible is it, when we meet a piece of "still life" tortured into grimace as cruelly as if a Grieve or a Beverly had designed it to act its dumb part in some stage-scene of demon orgy, to avoid thinking of the sublime human figures with which an earlier designer—Blake—made Blair's 'Grave' what it never was before—and never of itself deserved to be—"a popular poem." He was at all times fitful—occasionally imaginative to the verge of insanity;—but the most violent of his angels or sun-spirits, or Titans groaning beneath the weight of *Pelions*, was never vulgar. Of such importance has the calling of a book-illustrator now become, that our strictures must not be thought overstrained, when their object is to reclaim a clever man like Mr. Meadows, and to warn a promising one like Mr. Ferguson. The contributions by Mr. Cope will not take rank amongst his best works. His figure of 'Resignation' (page 432) is tum-

bling forwards,—and the head is preternaturally small. The woodcuts are fairly—but not choicely—executed.

A Sketcher's Tour round the World. By Robert Elwes, Esq. With Illustrations from Original Drawings by the Author. Hurst & Blackett.—The garment in which this book comes forth—a rich suit of blue and gold—seems to point out the drawing-room table as its place of destination. The nature of its contents—cheerful, lively letter-press—will assure it a ready welcome there. Yet it is not, therefore, ineligible for the library shelf; even for that shelf which is devoted to "voyages round the world." How far Mr. Elwes will be satisfied with our preference, there is no telling; but we think him happier when sketching with the pen than when using his pencil. It may be, that the common quality of the lithographs by which his drawings are here represented (though from the press of Messrs. Hullmandel & Walton), tells to his disadvantage, even when his subjects are as spirited as the magnificent falls of "Paolo Affonso" in Brazil, which Mr. Elwes measures against the falls at Schaffhausen, Terni, and Trollhättan—or as the "Gum Forest," and 'The Weatherboard Gulph,' in the *newest* of all new worlds. Pleasanter reading, we repeat, need not be offered than our sketcher brings; though he passes so quickly on that his topics jostle each other, thus rendering any separate extract that would do him justice difficult to find. Therefore, the stress of the season considered, we must be excused if we merely repeat a succinct recommendation of his volume,—whether to the buyer of gift-books, who would rather have truth than the sweetest of poems or the finest of fairy tales,—or to the home traveller, who began as a boy among those more solid tones of the elder voyagers, who wrote in days when a voyage round the world was an undertaking far more solemn than our "Sketcher" appears to have found it.

But here is our Christmas book,—our New Year's gift,—our wedding present for bride or bridesmaid,—our gift-book for all seasons and all times,—*The Letters of Rachel Lady Russell*, published by Longman & Co., in two pretty volumes, illustrated with a portrait of the lady herself, from a miniature by Boit,—another of her husband,—views of old Southampton House, inherited from her family, and afterwards called Bedford House,—and of Woburn Abbey as it appeared when Lady Rachel resided there,—letters that cannot be read without moral benefit,—that present to us a model of goodness, sweetness, and Christian purity. There are some few letters in this collection now published for the first time,—one of great interest; written, as Lady Rachel says, "upon the 21st of July, '91,—a day of sad remembrance to me, it being that whereon your excellent father was taken from us, with much severity, to my lasting sorrow and your loss." Our only regret is that the work has not some memoir—some outline sketch of the life of Lady Rachel—prefixed. Miss Berry observed, and truly:—the letters "will be found devoid of any ornament of style, and deficient in almost every particular that constitutes what are generally called entertaining letters. Their merit must arise entirely from a previous knowledge of the character and habits of this writer, and from the interest which the subsequent circumstances in which she was placed inspire."

The last pair of Christmas books which we shall notice this week are expressly laid out for young ladies.—*Ephemeris; or, Leaves from the Journal of Marian Drayton* (Seeley), is the diary of another imitator of Lady Willoughby,—but who spells with such ultra-affectation of antiquity, and who sets down the nothings that

she imagines mark manners and customs (such as in real Diaries are passed over as so many matters of course) with so fatiguing a minuteness, that she must hold us excused for having finally stopped short in the midst of the "terrible storme," which began as follows:—"with the lightning noble yett fearful to behold, dertying forthe from the clowdes with fierie tongs of flame, and the thunder rolling with a solempn noyse."

—We maintain that any young lady will deserve the first prize for patience who can prove, on examination, that she has toiled through the uncouth labyrinths of bad orthography, in which are shut up the "holy breathings" of the imaginary aunt of our anonymous authoress.—The other book is of different quality—a translation from the German—entitled *Louisa von Plattenhaus; or, the Journal of a Poor Young Lady*. Edinburgh, Constable & Co.; London, Hamilton & Co.—There is an individuality in this story which sets it apart from many of its equals and betters. Louisa von Plattenhaus is the daughter of a reduced German lady, of noble family, whose aunt has decided that she is to make her fortune at court by getting an appointment there as a Maid of Honour. Once again we are shown that union of pinching misery and insane desire to keep up appearances, which somehow or other wears a peculiarly sordid and humiliating aspect in the German domestic tale and drama. Louisa, however, is a wise girl, and determines to earn her bread, instead of playing the ghastly part of a pauper lady; she is a pious girl, too,—and having found a situation as governess, in a truly eccentric family (none but eccentric families engage governesses in fiction), she turns her piety to account in managing her own temper and in softening the peculiarities of her employers. That which happens to most governesses in novels more frequently than in real life, happens, also, to Louisa von Plattenhaus. She receives offers of marriage; and her piety is rewarded by her being permitted "to wear," as well as "to win," the richest and the best husband set before her. There is a touch too much of *Missus Worldly Wisewoman* in this catastrophe; and we fear that it may tend to mislead poor gentlewomen's nieces:—but there is a reality of German domestic life in the tale which carried us through its scenes without difficulty or weariness.

Memoirs, Journal and Correspondence of Thomas Moore. Edited by Lord John Russell. Vols. V. and VI. Longman & Co.

In these volumes we have Moore's own record of his doings (we wish we could add sayings) from November 1825 to October 1833. The chief topics which they touch on are—his negotiations for the sale of Byron's Life; his inquiries into the particulars of the great poet's career early and late (in which he was more diligent than many have been willing to believe); his ceaseless round of invitations; his repeated absences from home; his pecuniary difficulties, his constant hurry, his vanity; his love for his wife, and his grief at the death of his only daughter. In every respect the entries, as here continued, are like the entries to be found in the former volumes. We have the same Holland House and Lansdowne House entertainments—the same negotiations with Longman and Murray—the same record of dinners and breakfasts, and the same notices of whatever was said in his own praise by people of high degree. Nor are these the only points in which the volumes will be found to resemble their predecessors. We have the record of small jokes, and now and then of good sayings; but no attempt whatever to preserve the conversation or wit combats of the great men whom he was in

the habit of meeting. He is content to record a joke. He seems to have had no larger recollection of the table-talk of his friend than a small repartee, a conundrum, or an old saying of which the origin may not unfrequently be traced to earlier times and other languages.

We wish we could say that the noble Editor had sufficiently profited by the criticisms so generally and uniformly passed on his editorial labours. It is true that he has not favoured us in these volumes with even a single letter of Moore's, and in that respect we are free from the repetitions of small events so justly complained of in the earlier volumes,—but any illustration of the persons mentioned is not even attempted, and as for the errors in names, they are, as far as we have seen, just as prolific as before.

Lord John is obviously aware of some of the defects in his friend's Journal.—

"The defect of Moore's Journal, in my opinion, is, that while he is at great pains to put in writing the stories and the jokes he hears, he seldom records a serious discussion or notices the instructive portion of the conversations in which he bore a part. It may be of some interest to recall, however, the character and type of the conversations which were carried on by the eminent men now lost to us with whom Moore habitually lived. Lord Bacon has said that 'reading makes a full man, writing a correct man, and conversation a ready man.' It may be added that in this, as in other arts, 'practice makes perfect.' Those who have been renowned for their powers of conversation were constantly engaged in that pleasant task. Addison would pass seven or eight hours a-day in coffee-houses and taverns. Johnson told Boswell that his habit was to go out at four o'clock in the afternoon and not to return till two o'clock in the morning. A vast time for these learned men to spend in talk! Yet, having armed themselves at all points by study, it was no doubt a great delight to these knights of the library to try the temper of their weapons, to run full tilt against an adversary with pointed epigram, and to win the prize in a tournament of wits."

His Lordship has favoured us with a preface of some fifteen pages, in which we find a defence of the so-called vanity of Moore—a character of Mackintosh—a sketch of Sydney Smith, and a panegyric on Holland House. Before re-introducing our readers to the journalist, we shall allow Lord John to make his bow to the public. Here is a pleasant passage about Sydney Smith.—

"If it is difficult to convey any notion of the conversation of Sir James Mackintosh, it is hardly possible to describe that of Sydney Smith. There are two kinds of colloquial wit which equally contribute to fame, though not equally to agreeable conversation. The one is like a rocket in a dark air which shoots at once into the sky, and is the more surprising from the previous silence and gloom; the other is like that kind of firework which blazes and bursts out in every direction, exploding at one moment, and shining brightly at another, eccentric in its course, and changing its shape and colour to many forms and many hues. Or, as a dinner is set out with two kinds of champagne, so these two kinds of wit, the still and the sparkling, are to be found in good company. Sheridan and Talleyrand were among the best examples of the first. Hare (as I have heard) and Sydney Smith were brilliant instances of the second. Hare I knew only by tradition; but with Sydney Smith I long lived intimately. His great delight was to produce a succession of ludicrous images: these followed each other with a rapidity that scarcely left time to laugh; he himself laughing louder and with more enjoyment than any one. This electric contact of mirth came and went with the occasion; it cannot be repeated or reproduced."

We are often introduced to Sydney Smith, but never more pleasantly than by himself in the following letter written in his happiest vein.—

"In writing to Sydney Smith to-day, sending him Crabbe's address, which he wanted, I said that 'I was sorry he had gone away so soon from Ellis's' the

other night, as I had improved (i. e. in my singing) afterwards, and he was one of the few I always wished to do my best for.' In answer to this received the following flattering note from him, written evidently under the impression that I had been annoyed by his going away.—

"My dear Moore,—By the beard of the prelate of Canterbury, by the cassock of the prelate of York, by the breakfasts of Rogers, by Luttrell's love of side-dishes, I swear that I had rather hear you sing than any person I ever heard in my life, male or female. For what is your singing but beautiful poetry floating in fine music and guided by exquisite feeling? Call me Dissenter, say that my cassock is ill put on, that I know not the delicacies of decimation, and confound the greater and the smaller tithes; but do not think or say that I am insensible to your music. The truth is, that I took a solemn oath to Mrs. Beauclerk to be there by ten, and set off, to prevent perjury, at eleven; but was seized with a violent pain in the stomach by the way, and went to bed.—Yours ever, my dear Moore, very sincerely,
SYDNEY SMITH."

Having passed from Preface to Journals, we may notice, that the most valuable portions of the present volumes relate to Lord Byron. Here is a bit about Byron from Lord William Russell.—

"A good deal of conversation with Lord W. Russell in the evening about Byron; his dissipation at Venice; doing it very much out of bravado, and not really liking it. Used often to fly away from home and row all night upon the water. Mentioned what he had heard of Byron's not feeling any admiration of Rome: saying to Hobhouse 'what shall I write about?' and H. giving him the heads of what he afterwards described so powerfully."

Not less interesting is an account of a conversation with Lord Clare.—

"Interesting conversation with Lord Clare; his confessing what wrong he had done me for a great part of his life from what he had thought due to his father's memory (whom I had attacked in an early poem, 'Corruption'); his having refused to be introduced to me by Rogers, &c. I told him I had never in the least blamed him for this feeling, as it was one I should most probably have had myself. He then said, 'But I do feel that I have been guilty of *fort* towards you, and you cannot conceive with what zeal Byron took your part against me when we met in Italy, and when I stated the reasons of my feeling, he said laughingly, 'Well, you are both Irishmen, and therefore, perhaps, both in the wrong.'" Lord Clare then added, 'Byron was strongly attached to you, and I feel quite sure that you and I were the persons he liked best in the world.'"

Byron, it was well known, was at one time fond of the company of Edmund Kean. Mr. Kean's account of their friendship will be read with interest.—

"Found out Mrs. Kean, to whom I wished to put some queries. Told me about the presents from Lord B. of a box and a sword. The former has on it a representation of a boar-hunt, and was presented by him to Kean after seeing him in Richard III. Byron offended at Kean's leaving a dinner, which had been chiefly made for him, at which were B. himself, Lord Kinnaird, and Douglas Kinnaird. Kean pretended illness, and went away early; but Byron found out afterwards that he had gone to take the chair at a pugilistic supper. B., after this, would not speak to Kean. He was, however, so delighted with his acting in Sir Giles Overreach, that, notwithstanding all this, he presented to him, immediately after seeing him in this character, a very handsome Turkish sword, with a Damascus blade. Sent him 50*l.* at his benefit."

From Byron, we must now pass to other persons of even greater rank. Here is a picture of George the Fourth in undress. Only think of the "first gentleman in Europe" making such an appearance even for a minute.—

"Dined at Lockhart's: company, Irving, Christie, and a brother of Lockhart's. L. mentioned Chantrey's description of a morning in the King's bed-chamber at the Cottage. His tailor, Wyatville, Chantrey, and somebody else in attendance, and the

King in bed in a dirty flannel waistcoat and cotton nightcap. A servant announces that the Duke of Wellington is arrived, and waits an audience in the adjoining room. His Majesty gets up, puts on a fine silk *douillette* and velvet cap, and goes to the Duke, and after the conference is ended, returns, puts on the dirty flannel waistcoat and cotton nightcap, and to bed again. Generally walks about in his room all the morning in bare legs."

A negotiation with Murray is thus ludicrously related.—

"Called at Murray's. Mentioned to him Lady Morgan's wish to contribute something to his 'Family Library,' and that she has materials ready for lives of five or six Dutch painters, which she thinks would suit his purpose. The great John said, without minding the painters, 'Pray, isn't Lady Morgan a very good cook?'—I answered, I did not know; but why did he ask?—'Because,' said he, 'if she would do something in that line.'—'Why, you don't mean,' exclaimed I, 'that she should write a cookery book for you?'—'No,' answered John, coolly, 'not so much as that; but that she should re-edite *mine*,' (Mrs. Rundall's, by which he has made mints of money).—Oh, that she could have heard this with her own ears! Here ended my negotiation for her Ladyship."

Moore's passion for living among the great is thus illustrated and vindicated by himself.—

"A curious conversation after dinner from my saying that, 'after all, it was in high life one met the best society;' Rogers violently opposing me; he, too, of all men, who (as I took care to tell him) had through the greater part of his life shown practically that he agreed with me, by confining himself almost exclusively to this class of society. It is, indeed, the power which these great people have of commanding, among their other luxuries, the presence of such men as he is at their tables, that sets their circle (taking all its advantages into account) indubitably above all others in the way of society. — said, with some bitterness, that, on the contrary, the high class were the vulgarst people one met. Vulgar enough, God knows! some of them are; vulgar in *mind*, which is the worst sort of vulgarity. But, to my nothing of women, *where*, in any rank or station in life, could one find *men* better worth living with, whether for manners, information, or any other of the qualities that render society agreeable, than such persons as Lords Holland, Grey, Carlisle, Lansdowne, Cowper, King, Melbourne, Carnarvon, John Russell, Dudley, Normanby, Morpeth, Mahon, and numbers of others that I can speak of from personal knowledge?"

He again reverts to the same subject, and in Van Buren's company.—

"In speaking of poor Lord Dudley, whose melancholy state is now so much the topic of conversation; his large dinners, the manner he treats his guests, never speaking to them, but sitting in a sort of stupor, or reading to himself 'Hume's History of England' (as he did one day Lord Lansdowne dined with him)—I remarked it showed what rank and station could do in England, when a man in such a state was still able to bring the best company about him; on which Van Buren said, 'If there is anything which rank and station cannot do in England I have not found it out.' He then added (what struck me a good deal, both as coming from a republican and as agreeing perfectly with my own opinion), 'But still I must say that rank and station in England deserves (as far as *society* goes) the value set upon it; for I have found that the higher one rises in the atmosphere the purer the tone of society is.' Told him how much this coincided with the whole of my own experience; that such an opinion, however, coming from a person like myself, who lived with that class without naturally belonging to them, was apt to be regarded with suspicion by my own equals, who were naturally inclined to say, 'Oh yes, he is flattered by living with the great, and therefore flatters them in this way in return.'"

This subject of personal preferences and social aptitudes, like every point on which honourable men disagree, has two sides. Some day we may perhaps venture to discuss its philosophy:—in the mean time we put on record in our columns

such a defence of the love of high society as those who indulge in it choose to offer.

We shall return to these volumes for some of those brief anecdotes of Moore's contemporaries in which they abound.

Speeches of the Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, M.P. Corrected by Himself.

[Second Notice.]

THE rank of Mr. Macaulay as a political orator has long since been ascertained. He differs, not so much in degree as in kind, from almost every celebrated Parliamentary speaker of his age. His merits and his defects are palpable at a glance. His glittering diction, his vivacity of intellect, and his power of illustration are obvious on hearing or reading his speeches. In the proper sense of the word, however, he can scarcely be called an orator. He has no power over the passions,—and he frequently fails in reply. He cannot follow an adversary—grapple with his assertions consecutively, and rend them asunder one after the other, in the style which is most effective in politics. As a debater he is inefficient, and yet it would be unjust to term him a declaimer. His ingenious reasoning (though too often partaking of sophistry), his constitutional knowledge, his apt allusions, and his highly intellectual mode of treating even common questions, remove him from the category of those shallow though clever political performers, who have (as Curran said of Lord Moira) “aired their vocabularies” in Parliament. At first sight, it would appear that Burke influenced his manner,—but he has only done so superficially. Burke looked on every question like “a philosopher in action,” and along with his profundity, his speeches bear witness to his having embarked his passions in nearly every question. Mr. Macaulay appears to consider every subject of debate, not like a philosopher or a practical statesman, but like an essayist and a public lecturer. Every speech he makes is a display of his own acuteness, his memory, his force of language, and his picturesque felicity of style. But we miss the fire of genuine passion,—and he never electrifies us with those terrible bursts of genius which often astonished, and sometimes appalled, the hearers of Chatham, Fox, Grattan, “Henry” Brougham, Plunkett, and O’Connell. Nor does he, like the late Sir Robert Peel, examine a question adroitly, and artfully balance the *pros* and *cons*, leading by sure steps to a conclusion. He rather seizes one point of view, and uses all his powers of illustration to set forth that particular side of the subject. It happens, however, that public questions are “many sided,”—and his style is not the best adapted for a practical audience like the House of Commons. It must be recollected that Mr. Macaulay was not regularly bred to parliamentary speaking,—and it must be also remembered that the practice of treating subjects as an essayist, and the retrospective habit engendered by historical pursuits, have a tendency to diminish that spontaneity and extemporary power which are required in our English school of oratory, so averse to the elaborate artifices of the ancient rhetoricians.

The best speech for perusal in this volume is the address on the affairs of India, spoken in 1833. It was delivered to empty benches. The orations on the Reform Bill were delivered at a period of political excitement, and echo the excitement and passions of a party. They produced considerable effect, and would have been still more influential had they been aided by elocutionary art. Goethe has in ‘Faust’ a sentiment to the effect that ‘delivery makes the orator’s success,’—and Mr. Macaulay has not those rhetorical aids which

Lord Lyndhurst, Lord Brougham, and other great speakers of our age possess. His voice is monotonous, and his articulation is too rapid to be imposing. His gestures are not graceful, and though he speaks with energy, the exhibition of his talent has something too mechanical and prepared in its display. He recites political pamphlets, rather than harangues the audience.

The peroration to the speech on “Reform,” of the 20th of September 1831, is a specimen of art, which was completely successful on delivery. The description of the fall of the French Aristocracy, and the contrast with the popularity and power of the British Nobility,—the invective against the conduct of the defeated Tory ministers,—with the skilful allusion to “the patriot king,”—and the union of the people out of doors,—these were strokes well calculated to move an audience. We think it the best passage in the volume.—

“This, I say, is the advice given to the Lords by those who call themselves the friends of aristocracy. That advice so pernicious will not be followed, I am well assured; yet I cannot but listen to it with uneasiness. I cannot but wonder that it should proceed from the lips of men who are constantly lecturing us on the duty of consulting history and experience. Have they never heard what effects counsels like their own, when too faithfully followed, have produced? Have they never visited that neighbouring country, which still presents to the eye, even of a passing stranger, the signs of a great dissolution and renovation of society? Have they never walked by those stately mansions, now sinking into decay, and portioned out into lodging-rooms, which line the silent streets of the Faubourg St. Germain? Have they never seen the ruins of those castles whose terraces and gardens overhang the Loire? Have they never heard that from those magnificent hotels, from those ancient castles, an aristocracy as splendid, as brave, as proud, as accomplished as ever Europe saw, was driven forth to exile and beggary, to implore the charity of hostile Governments and hostile creeds, to cut wood in the back settlements of America, or to teach French in the school-rooms of London? And why were those haughty nobles destroyed with that utter destruction? Why were they scattered over the face of the earth, their titles abolished, their escutcheons defaced, their parks wasted, their palaces dismantled, their heritage given to strangers? Because they had no sympathy with the people, no discernment of the signs of their time; because, in the pride and narrowness of their hearts, they called those whose warnings might have saved them theorists and speculators; because they refused all concession till the time had arrived when no concession would avail. I have no apprehension that such a fate awaits the nobles of England. I draw no parallel between our aristocracy and that of France. Those who represent the peerage as a class whose power is incompatible with the just influence of the people in the State, draw that parallel, and not I. They do all in their power to place the Lords and Commons of England in that position with respect to each other in which the French gentry stood with respect to the Third Estate. But I am convinced that these advisers will not succeed. We see, with pride and delight, among the friends of the people, the Talbots, the Cavendishes, the princely house of Howard. Foremost among those who have entitled themselves, by their exertions in this House, to the lasting gratitude of their countrymen, we see the descendants of Marlborough, of Russell, and of Derby. I hope and firmly believe, that the Lords will see what their interest and their honour require. I hope, and firmly believe, that they will act in such a manner as to entitle themselves to the esteem and affection of the people. But, if not, let not the enemies of Reform imagine that their reign is straightway to recommence, or that they have obtained anything more than a short and uneasy respite. We are bound to respect the constitutional rights of the Peers; but we are bound also not to forget our own. We, too, have our privileges: we, too, are an estate of the realm. A House of Commons, strong in the love and confidence of the people, a House of Commons, which has nothing to fear from a dissolution, is

something in the Government. Some persons, I well know, indulge a hope that the rejection of the bill will at once restore the domination of that party which fled from power last November, leaving everything abroad and everything at home in confusion; leaving the European system, which it had built up at a vast cost of blood and treasure, falling to pieces in every direction; leaving the dynasties which it had restored, hastening into exile; leaving the nations which it had joined together, breaking away from each other; leaving the fundholders in dismay; leaving the peasantry in insurrection; leaving the most fertile counties lighted up with the fires of incendiaries; leaving the capital in such a state that a royal procession could not safely pass through it. Dark and terrible, beyond any season within my remembrance of political affairs, was the day of their flight. Far darker and far more terrible will be the day of their return. They will return in opposition to the whole British nation, united as it was never before united on any internal question: united as firmly as when the Armada was sailing up the Channel; united as firmly as when Bonaparte pitched his camp on the cliffs of Boulogne. They will return pledged to defend evils which the people are resolved to destroy. They will return to a situation in which they can stand only by crushing and trampling down public opinion, and from which, if they fall, they may, in their fall, drag down with them the whole frame of society. Against such evils, should such evils appear to threaten the country, it will be our privilege and our duty to warn our gracious and beloved Sovereign. It will be our privilege and our duty to convey the wishes of a loyal people to the throne of a patriot king. At such a crisis, the proper place for the House of Commons is in front of the nation; and in that place this House will assuredly be found. Whatever prejudice or weakness may do elsewhere to ruin the empire, here, I trust, will not be wanting the wisdom, the virtue, and the energy that may save it.”

On the whole, we may express our satisfaction that Mr. Macaulay has resolved to devote his future time and powers to literature rather than to Parliamentary business. The merits as well as the defects of his nature would prevent him from being a potent ruler of the fierce passions of “party,”—and we think that he has shown a wise discretion in aiming at the sovereignty which a great English writer may exercise over posterity, rather than in devoting his life to the pursuit of that transient authority which is the reward of the successful partizan.

A CENTURY OF BOOKS OF VERSE.

Letters of Laura D'Auverne, by Charles Swain, might have been laid aside for notice on a leisure day, had their graceful writer been here equal to himself; and had he not—misled by the fascinations of our Laureate's ‘Locksley Hall,’ Mrs. Browning's ‘Lady Geraldine's Courtship,’—thought it well to write the story of another *Modern Griselda's* quarrels with her husband in the style of those poems.—How little the manner fits the matter chosen may be gathered from the verse which tells us what Laura D'Auverne desired and was denied.—

If I have a passion, Bertha, 'tis to mount the graceful steed,
Curb his haughty pace elastic, check his hot and dashing
speed,
But D'Auverne abhors it—hates it!—Would you think a
man of sense
Could be so perverse as hate it?—Truth is, dear, he hates
expense!

The poems and songs which follow this unhappy tale of unhappiness (told in nine letters) are better.—*A Summer's Day-Dream*, with other Poems. By Henry Francis Robinson.—Here, also, the writer succeeds least in the long poem which gives his volume its title. The meditations which cross the mind of a contemplative man at morn, noon, eve, as the changing hours suggest changeable thoughts, are better conceived than uttered. Mr. Robinson tries blank verse; and since he can rise to the sonority of that poetical form, he must not be

excused when he stumbles into such a prosaic line as the following, which belongs to no metre that we ever heard of.—

These—the worst fruits of civilization!

There is music in the following vision, closing 'Noon,'—sufficient to prove that where the day-dreamer sins, it must be from idleness, not ignorance.—

From out the bush
The blackbird's song has swelled a deeper note;
And over head the multitudinous rooks
Are whirling in half-circles through the air,
Or from their towering nests so loudly prate
That the whole skies seem musical; the ear
Bewitched with sound doth rival every sense
In deep enjoyment.

Some of Mr. Robinson's minor poems are elegant, thoughtful, and pleasing. His "improvement" (as the old preachers had it) of 'Philosophy and Love,' reminds us in its manner of the Author of 'Philip van Artevelde.' But, on the whole, our author is too careless in finish.—In this paragraph may be numbered *Poems*, by Anna Blackwell,—pleasing verses devoted to delicate thoughts and fantasies. They may be hardly individual enough to satisfy public exigence in our fastidious days,—but had they appeared when Mrs. West, and Mrs. Perdita Robinson, and Mrs. Opie gathered their readers, they, too, might have collected a public, and have won a reputation for the writer.

The three minstrels just parted with are all more than mere versifiers.—Mr. Spencer T. Hall, "The Sherwood Forester," vouches as much for Mr. Edward Hind, whose *Poems* he introduces with a Preface, indicating that he speaks for their author as for one who just now cannot speak for himself—his mind being under a veil. Sad as is such an appeal, truth is still truth:—false friends may prove as pernicious to an overheated brain as a careless public.—*A Lay of the Sea, with Kindred Poems*, contains curious verses:—none more curious than the account of a musical party—

With voices and soft laughter,
And Wright's fine harpings ringing after,—

at which Madame Thillon sang,—and after which our sea-singer has apostrophized that Lady (of all artificial artists the most daintily artificial), as "Urania, the Starry Queen,"—as "The Delphic Priestess,"—and goes on to declare that

The light and music in that soul
Shall permeate and inspire that form,
Shall rills from a nectar-well that roll.

—To match the above we should be treated to a sonnet encouraging Mdlle. Rachel under the semblance of a "shy daisy."

Of *The Poetical Works of John Charles Bristow, Esq.*, Vol. VI., *Dramatic and Miscellaneous Poems*, it must suffice to say, that so far as we have looked, Mr. Bristow's sixth volume bears out the character of its five predecessors [*Athen.* No. 1213]. Like them, it is portly:—for the nature of the ware with which it is filled the reader is referred to our former notice.—Among other wonders in rhyme (for books like the above amount to wonders) may be classed *Mona's Isle, and other Poems*. By T. J. Ouseley.—The "Isle of Man" is here shown off in such verse as during certain days of the "useful knowledge" mania was employed by short-sighted educators for the stupefaction of babes,—e.g.

The pretty little village, Laxey, lies
Embosomed in a glen of some extent;
'Twas once one of the isle's celebrities,
A town of note that merchants would frequent.
In its rich loam mines silver's prevalent;
'Tis celebrated for its paper mills,
The scenery romantic, and is blest
On the south-west and north with lofty hills.

From every point of view the eye with beauty fills.

—More rhapsodically poetical than the above and more amazing is *Memorialia; or, Phials of Amber, full of the Tears of Love: a Gift for the Beautiful*, by T. H. Chivers, M.D.:—a gift from across the Atlantic, let it be added. With what manner of seers, rappers, or other won-

drous persons Dr. Chivers has consorted it is not our business to guess. We divine from 'Isadore' that he is familiar with the poetry of Poe. But who can have set the example of the following? They are two verses of 'Lord Uther's Lament for Ella.'

In the mild month of October,
Through the fields of Cooty Hamber,
By the great archangel Aubert,
Such sweet songs of love did flow,
From her golden lips preluded,
That my soul with joy was flooded,
As by God the earth was wooded
In the days of long ago.

All her soul's divinest treasure
Poured she out then without measure,
Till an ocean of deep pleasure
Drowned my soul from all its woe:
Like Cecilia Inattella,
In the Bowers of Roseobella,
Sang the saintly Angel-Ella
In the days of long ago.

The reader is assured that we have not been making experiments on his power to digest nonsense, by offering him fabrications got up for the purpose, or by maliciously bringing out, into unfair relief, exceptional curiosities such as the most steady-going rhymers may, by mishap, produce, under the pressure of some passing lunacy. He will not be sorry to return into the company of more rational persons. Our next group consists of such: but, seeing that none of them has attained any extraordinary loftiness of flight, we need do little more than name those who compose it.—The first is Mr. G. H. Wood, who offers *Poems, to which are added Critiques on Metaphysical Subjects*. Among his sonnets personal addresses too largely predominate.—*The Hero's Child* (a narrative in blank verse), and other *Poems*, by Anna M. Debenham, comes next.—Rather higher in quality and purer in style, perhaps, is *Claudia, the Days of Martyrdom, a Tale*, by A. M. Goodrich; the writer of which—desiring probably to make his (?) measure suit the sad severity of his theme—has told his martyr-story in the unadorned, not to say bald, manner of Mr. Tennyson's 'Dora,' and has so steadily kept up the selected tone as generally to trench on the borders of prose. *The Song of the Spheres*, by Eliza Huskinson, is in a more ornate and fantastic style—a sort of dramatic scene or dialogue, after the fashion of Mrs. Browning's Biblical poems. But Miss Huskinson sometimes loses herself in mazes which she had no intention of entering,—as when she makes "the children of earth" in choral song thus apostrophize the Rainbow.—

Thou art the princely autograph of Heav'n!
Divine calligraphy of God.

In his *Idle Hours*, Enos Couch touches less ambitious strings,—some of his domestic and devotional verses are simple and true in feeling.—*Ione's Dream, and other Poems*, by Jane Emily Herbert, commences with an old Irish romance, written in measures perversely broken. If our authoress should reply to our objection by citing Scott's "Lay" as an example, it can be replied that Scott was in nothing more an artist than in the instinct or choice which indicated the gradations and changes of metre in his ballad-poems,—none of which trouble the reader by too abrupt or crude an intermixture of a new tempo (to use the musician's term). In Miss Herbert's minor ballads and songs, which complete her volume, she gives tokens of that musical sense which belongs as a heritage to the singers of Ireland.—*Early Musings, or Sketches in Verse*, by J. Cameron, is a more straightforward miscellany of minor poems, from Glasgow: The Scottish songs are the best. In some of his personal and complimentary rhymes, Mr. Cameron too closely approaches the *fustian style* fallen into by Burns (according to the stilted fashion of his day) when, addressing his *Delias* and *Clorindas*, he wished to lay aside 'Ayrshire' and to put on

Arcady. Of *The Southern Martyrs, a Tale of Patagonia*, in Three Parts, by C. Hutcheson, Esq., it need only be said that our author, with more zeal than discretion, has here done his best to swell the chorus of irrational enthusiasm, which, when put into action, produced—as we only the other day pointed out [*ante*, p. 1446]—such fruits of certain and terrible disaster in the case of the Patagonian Mission.—*The Musings of a Spirit, a Poem*, by George Marsland, begin more scientifically than spiritually, as under.—

The man of genius is an architect,
And builder up of thoughts—his subject is
Cathedral, play-house, inn, or common gaol,
A cottage or a palace.

—As Mr. Marsland begins, too, he goes on,—like Moore's *Common Sense*,—

Many wise things saying,
concerning Time and Change, Sin and Sorrow,
Past, Present, and Future.

The last three of our Christmas guests whom we announce this week are the most sterling ones,—inasmuch as learning and study must have gone to their labours. *The select Metrical Hymns and Homilies of Ephraem Syrus, translated from the Original Syriac, with an Introduction and Historical and Philological Notes*, by the Rev. H. Burgess, bear in their title a reason why the above can be only an announcement in the strictest sense of the word. Mr. Burgess has not attempted metrical symmetry in his versions, but apparently a simple, literal rendering of the Syriac line by line.—We have also before us, a second edition of Dr. Tholuck's *Circle of Human Life*, translated from the German, by the Rev. R. Menzies. This is a series of small, succinct, aphoristic, devotional sayings in verse, not unlike those of our own Quarles (though without his fantasy), followed by elaborations and illustrations of the same in prose.—In *Arundines Deæ; or, Poetical Translations on a new Principle*, by a Scotch Physician, the author professes, that—

"it has been my aim to produce such lyric poems as I conceive Horace himself would have produced, if the English language of the present day had been the language of Imperial Rome at the time he lived."

• I have also aimed at giving my performances the freedom and ease of native compositions in my own language.

—Let us extract the first three lines of one of the Horatian Odes here translated.—

We own Jove thundering in the sky
To reign: a present deity
To be Augustus shall be held.

—The "Scotch Physician," we fear, has deceived himself. English "freedom and ease," as we understand those words "at the present day," are rendered impossible by the concentration and inversion of the above sentences.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Once upon a Time. By Charles Knight. 2 vols. —Under the quaint title of 'Once upon a Time,'—a phrase to call up sundry recollections round the Christmas fire,—Mr. Charles Knight has gathered together the fruits of a literary industry extending over many years, and embracing many subjects. Some of these papers, we are told, are new to the reader:—the majority of them are reprints from journals, young and old, in which they have severally enjoyed the popularity to which their light, gossiping, and kindly nature entitle them. Unhappily for the critic, Mr. Knight has not told us in his Preface which of the papers in his miscellany are now for the first time printed; and as the best memory cannot keep account of the doings and sayings of a half century of journals, we are compelled to forego the pleasure of serving up to our Christmas readers any of the dainty things here offered. We may, however, commend 'Once upon a Time' to such as are in search of tale and gossip suited to the genial season of the year. *The Private Letters of Sir James Brooke*. Edited by J. C. Templer. 3 vols.—Mr. Hume and the

Members of Parliament who share his views as to the deeds and misdeeds of Sir James Brooke, are the causes of the appearance of this singular and painful publication. Generally, it is thought time enough to rake up a man's private correspondence when the writer is no more—when friend and enemy are removed from the scene—and when the passions and follies amidst which the battle of life was fought out have passed away. When indirect revelations are prematurely made, it is mostly in the interests of foes. Seldom, indeed, does a man elect to have his private letters—the secret outpourings of his heart—given to the curious world in his lifetime. But for such private whispering of the heart to be given as the letters of Sir James Brooke are here given—and with such a comment—to the outside and unsympathizing public, almost passes credibility. The editor of these volumes has some vague notion of doing a service to the Rajah and his cause by the publication. Into that cause, and the controversies which hang about it, it is not our duty or desire to enter. We leave it in other hands. It is enough for us to announce the appearance of the collection,—to say that the letters here printed are chiefly addressed to Sir James's mother,—and then leave the reader, not yet absolutely wearied with the Sarawak quarrel, to draw his own conclusions from the defence here made against the humanitarians of the House of Commons.

Dante's Divine Comedy: the Purgatory. Translated in the Original Tertiary Rhyme by C. B. Cayley, B.A.—Thoroughly to comprehend Dante is a task to which few are equal. Even his own countrymen complain of the difficulties of his style, which must of course be still more keenly felt by foreign readers. And these are not the only or the greatest obstacles with which we have to contend. After the grammatical interpretation has been effected, it yet remains for us to penetrate into the deeper meaning or meanings concealed within the literal sense. In accomplishing the first object the English reader will be greatly assisted by Mr. Cayley's translation; which is studiously literal, and at the same time represents something of the manner of the original. We have occasionally regretted the closeness of the resemblance in point of verbal and grammatical difficulty. Mr. Cayley indulges so freely in archaisms now almost entirely out of use, and inversions foreign to the idiom of our language, that his meaning is less obvious than might be desired, especially in the more argumentative passages. In narrative and description his translation is less open to objection on this score, though not entirely free from the drawback. The appendix, at the end, contains an account of the various methods of interpreting Dante's more recondite meaning.

The Annals of Roger De Hoveden; comprising the History of England and of other Countries of Europe from A.D. 732 to A.D. 1201. Translated, with Notes and Illustrations, by Henry T. Riley, B.A.—Tedious and credulous as the chroniclers often are, it is impossible for any one to possess a thorough knowledge of history without consulting them. Information obtained at second or third hand cannot supersede the necessity for going to the fountain head. Not only can we never be sure that what is communicated to us by another from an original authority is correct as far as it goes, but we know not what omissions may have been made materially affecting its character and tendency. Students of history who cannot read Latin fluently, or who prefer English when they can get it, may have recourse to one valuable Chronicle through the medium of Mr. Riley's well-executed translation. Notwithstanding Hoveden's alleged plagiarism and credulity, he has always been held in high esteem as an authority. Edward the First sought evidence from his 'Annals' to assist in deciding the disputes with regard to the homage due to him from Scotland, and even those who have charged him with borrowing or stealing from others admit his superiority to all preceding annalists in diligence and general fidelity. His details, though sometimes deteriorated in value by the superstition of the age, are often full of interest and importance,—particularly the letters, speeches, and treaties

which are so much more satisfactory when given in full than in bare outline or a digested form.

The Elements of Land Valuation; with Instructions as to the Qualifications and Duties of Valuers. By J. Lanktree.—An Irish treatise, more especially intended for the use of Irish land proprietors and valuers. It consists of six parts:—embracing the modes in which land has been hitherto valued in Ireland,—the qualifications necessary to constitute a competent valuer,—the various soils and subsoils,—the classification of soils according to their value,—the practice of land valuation,—and a number of valuation tables. The information conveyed, and the general principles laid down, are not altogether useless; yet they will be of little service without natural sagacity and practical experience,—and these will render any such work as this nearly superfluous, as the author himself is frank enough to confess. A good deal of what is stated might well have been spared as being either not strictly relevant to the subject, or too obvious and too useless.

The Orthographic Beauty of the Parthenon. By D. R. Hay, F.R.S.E.—It is one thing to perceive beauty of form, another to create it, and yet another to analyze it. The last is that which Mr. Hay claims to have accomplished. Some idea of his method may be gathered from what follows:—"The basis of my theory is this: that a figure is pleasing to the eye in the same degree as its fundamental angles bear to each other the same proportions that the vibrations bear to one another in a chord of music. Now, as the whole science of musical harmony depends upon the simple division into which a monochord, when in a state of vibratory motion, resolves itself by nodes into $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, and $\frac{1}{5}$, with their sub-multiples, $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{2}{5}$, &c.; so in like manner, the whole science of proportion or harmony of form arises from a similar division of the quadrant of a circle." The elucidation of this principle, and its application to the Parthenon, constitute the main body of Mr. Hay's present publication.

A Dictionary of Symbolical Masonry, including the Royal Arch Degree. Compiled by the Rev. G. Oliver, D.D.—More interesting to the particular class for whose use it is prepared than to the public in general,—but not without materials of value to all.

A Brief Inquiry into the Natural Rights of Man; his Duties and Interests.—Too much mixed up with questions of theology and politics to be discussed in these pages. The grand panacea for the social ills that afflict the body politic is, in the estimation of this writer, the abolition of the right of private property in land.

The Museum of Classical Antiquities: a Quarterly Journal of Ancient Art.—We have here the second volume of a periodical entitled to the support of all enlightened classical scholars. It contains articles of much interest; among which we may specify those on recent discoveries at Rome by the late Benjamin Gibson, sculptor; on excavations, by Capt. Caviglia, near the Great Sphinx, by S. Birch; on a house at Pompeii, excavated by E. Falkener; and on the progress and decay of Art, by F. Pulszky. An article on the ancient city and port of Seleucia Pieria, by W. H. Yates, M.D., is followed by others on the true situation of Cragus, Anticragus, and the Massicytus, mountains of Asia Minor, by Prof. Schönborn, of Posen; and on the Theatres of Vicenza and Verona, by E. Falkener.

Outlines of the Treatise of Benedictus de Spinoza on God, and on Man and his Happiness; and Notes to the Theologico-political Treatise.—[Benedicti de Spinoza Tractatus, &c.] Edited and Illustrated by Edward Boehmer.—The object of this work is sufficiently explained in its title.

Cometic Orbits, with Copious Notes and Addenda. Compiled and edited by E. J. Cooper.—Practical astronomers need only be informed of the contents of this volume to be convinced of its utility. In the first place, then, it contains a carefully compiled catalogue of comets, comprising the elements of each, as calculated by the best authorities. This portion of the work is based upon that of Delambre, but has been much improved by reference to others, especially that of Pngre. The editor has also had

the benefit of Mr. Graham's assistance. In the Notes—which occupy more than two-thirds of the whole—many interesting particulars are collected with regard to the discovery and history of the comets included in the catalogue. Pains have been taken to avoid error, and numerous references are made to standard authorities. All praise is due to the editor and his coadjutor for their well-directed industry.

A Series of Tables of the Area and Circumference of Circles; the Solidity and Superficies of Spheres; the Area and Length of the Diagonal of Squares; and the Specific Gravity of Bodies, &c. By Charles Todd. Second Edition.—The first edition of this useful publication having been exhausted, the author has taken the opportunity of remodelling, revising, and greatly enlarging it. He has thus made it still more worthy of the approbation bestowed on it by those who have tested its value experimentally. Of course, the great point in a work of this kind is, accuracy,—and this has been studied with special attention. A full explanation of the author's expeditious and accurate mode of calculation is given in the Preface. Engineers, surveyors, and mechanics will find this a useful book of reference.

Mechanics and Mechanism. Edited by R. S. Burn.—The important part played by machinery in our social system renders the diffusion of information on the subject very desirable. To communicate such information is the object of the present work, which is aptly described by the author as at once popular and practical. Leaving the theory of the various mechanical contrivances explained to be studied elsewhere, he contents himself with giving simply a practical description of them,—showing rather how than why the desired results are brought about. But this description is far from superficial; for it includes not merely an explanation of the way in which the different parts of the machinery act and re-act upon each other, but also an account of the nature and construction of each part. To meet the wants of the many, it has been the aim of the author to employ the simplest language and avoid all unnecessary technicalities. Rather more than a third of the volume is devoted to a clear and interesting account of the first principles of mechanics. The remainder contains a development of the application of these principles to the construction and arrangement of machinery. The illustrations throw light on the text, and add to the practical value of the work.

The Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers. By Diogenes Laertius. Literally translated by C. D. Yonge, B.A.—For particulars of the lives and sayings of the ancient Greek philosophers, Diogenes Laertius is our best remaining authority. His descriptions of their opinions, though not drawn up in a very scientific style, are some of them pretty complete—as, for instance, those relating to Plato, Aristotle, and Epicurus. Enough is said of all the philosophers to give the reader a fair idea of their peculiar tenets. The present translation is executed with great ability and care, by a Greek scholar who has already given substantial proof of the extent of his attainments. It is adapted to the use either of those who may be glad of assistance in interpreting the original, or of the larger class of readers who may wish to pick up interesting biographical information with reference to the earliest Greek philosophers, without being obliged to study or know anything of Greek. These latter need not regret their inability to read the original so long as they can get access to so excellent a translation. The rendering is close and accurate; but we have not detected a single instance in which violence is done to the idiom of our language. Thales begins and Epicurus ends the series of philosophers who are here described, and whose history is nearly identical with that of Greek philosophy itself.

A new *Atlas of Australia and the Gold Regions*, by the Messrs. Black, of Edinburgh,—and some portions of an *Atlas* to illustrate the great battles and campaigns in which Wellington found his fame. The last work here named—an important undertaking, as a collection of charts and plans, a necessary companion to all Lives of Wellington and Histories of the Indian, Peninsular and other cam-

paigns in which the hero was engaged—proceeds from the press of Mr. James Wyld—it is a work to which we shall have to return when a larger portion of it is before the public.

Among the volumes whose themes exclude them from regular criticism in our pages we find the Rev. B. G. Johns's *Plain Sermons to the Blind*,—*Development of the Apocalyptic Types of the Red Dragon and Beasts*, by Aliquis, "a Curate of the Diocese of Durham,"—Parts I. and II. of a *Cyclopædia of Sacred Poetical Quotations*, edited by H. G. Adams,—*Papery or Protestantism, a Shut Bible or an Open one*, by a Layman,—*Scriptural Predestination not Fatalism, Two Conversations*, by Henry Bleby,—*Why are you a Christian? or, How can the Faith of the Nineteenth Century be a Saving Faith?* questions asked and answered anonymously,—*True Religion the Great Science, a Sermon*, by the Rev. John King,—No. I. of "Homilies for the Times, addressed to those who doubt and those who believe," *Revelation: is it necessary?* by a Country Preacher,—*Sabbath Laws and Sabbath Duties considered in relation to their Natural and Scriptural Grounds and to the Principles of Religious Liberty*, by Robert Cox,—*Free Thoughts on Natural and Revealed Religion in reference to various Difficulties and Objectionable Passages in the Old and New Testaments, with Extracts from the Sacred Writings of the Hindoos, &c.*, by an Unlearned Inquirer after Truth,—*A Fifth Letter to the Rev. Dr. Mailand on the Genuineness of the Writings ascribed to Cyprion, Bishop of Carthage*, by the Rev. E. J. Shepherd,—*The Genealogies of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as contained in the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke reconciled with each other and with the Genealogy of the House of David from Adam to the close of the Canon of the Old Testament*, by Lord Arthur Hervey,—*A Book of Family Prayer, collected from the Public Liturgy of the Church of England*, by the Sacrist of Durham,—No. I. of *The Tree of Life, bearing Twelve Manner of Fruits and yielding its Fruit every Month*, this being for the month of November,—*A Report of the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts for the Present Year*,—*A Summary of the Doctrine of the Lord's Supper*, by a Layman,—*Ought there to be an Established Church in Ireland?* by the Rev. S. L. C. Townsend,—*State Churches and the Kingdom of Christ: an Essay on the Establishment of Ministers, Forms and Services of Religion by Secular Power, and on its Inconsistency with the Free-humility, Spiritual Nature of the Christian Dispensation*, by John Allen,—*Scenes in the Life of Christ*, a course of lectures by the Rev. H. Christmas,—*Foreign Chaplains, three Letters to the Bishop of London*,—*The Hour of the Redeemer*, by Dr. M. O'Sullivan,—*Religion and Education in relation to the People*, by J. A. Langford,—and a reprint, from American sources, called *Indications of the Creator; or, Natural Evidences of Final Cause*, by G. Taylor,—and *Theism, Atheism, and Popular Theology*, by Theodore Parker, an American re-publication, and also announced as the first of a set of volumes to be called "The Quarterly Series."

CLASSICAL AND EDUCATIONAL BOOKS.

Ἰππεῖδου Λόγος Β. *The Oration of Hyperides for Lycophron and for Euxenippus*; edited with Notes and Illustrations, by the Rev. Churchill Babington, M.A.—Till within the last six years our knowledge of Hyperides was scanty and second-hand. We could learn something of his life from Plutarch, and might form a vague notion of his eminence as an orator, from the high commendations of Longinus, Cicero, and Quintilian; but, beyond the scraps of quotations found in lexicographers, we had no means of making ourselves directly acquainted with his merits. Now our position is much improved. In the early part of the year 1847, fragments of a papyrus, containing one complete oration and portions of two others, came, our readers will remember, into the possession of two English gentlemen, who were travelling in Egypt. One of them, Mr. Harris, published a fac-simile of his fragments in the following year; and in 1850 the text was edited, with a preliminary dissertation and notes, by Mr. Babington, the editor of the text in the present work.

The chief part of those fragments contained a considerable portion of the Oration of Hyperides against Demosthenes:—but there were three fragments which evidently belonged to a different oration. Fifteen columns of that other oration, with the complete MS. of a third, were obtained almost at the same time by Mr. Arden, during a sojourn at Luxor; and it is proved by the identity of the material, character, and division into columns—not to mention, as before, the time and place of discovery—that the fragments, of which a fac-simile is here given, were originally parts of the same papyrus as those from which Mr. Harris's fragments were derived. M. Böckh and M. Sauppe have—unknown to each other—come, with Mr. Babington and Mr. Arden, to the conclusion that the MS. probably dates from the time of the Ptolemies. That it is by far the oldest MS. of a Greek writer at present known, is by scholars considered beyond a doubt. As an antiquarian curiosity, therefore, the present work is not without its value. But in a literary point of view, it possesses still greater interest, inasmuch as it supplies us with better means than we formerly possessed of forming an opinion on the character of Hyperides as an orator,—and contains allusions to history and antiquities which may be turned to account, together with certain grammatical peculiarities of rare occurrence. The manner in which the work is got up is creditable to all parties concerned,—whether we consider the execution of the fac-simile, the beauty of the type, or the ability displayed in the editorial department. It is scarcely possible for any one who has not seen the MS. or the fac-simile to form an idea of the difficulties with which Mr. Babington has had to contend in attempting to restore the text to a state of completeness. Where there is so much room for conjecture, differences of opinion will of course exist; but whether Mr. Babington's proposed readings be the true ones or not, they certainly betoken superior scholarship and ingenuity. His expository and illustrative notes are very serviceable in diminishing, if not in removing, the difficulties of the text.—A full account of the circumstances under which the two orations were delivered is supplied in the introductory observations.

The Olynthiac and other Public Oration of Demosthenes, translated with Notes, &c., by C. R. Kennedy.—If every volume of Mr. Bohn's Classical Library did but approximate to this in sound scholarship and abundance of information, that series of books would deserve to be held in higher esteem. The crowning merit, however, is, the masterly style in which the translation is executed. Mr. Kennedy's theory on the subject of translation—which he has forcibly stated and amply illustrated in the preface—commands our assent, and it is ably carried out in practice. His version is, as he intended it to be, readable:—English, without deviating from the true sense of the original. With regard to names of offices and institutions which have no exact equivalents in the present day, Mr. Kennedy maintains the propriety of employing such modern terms as come nearest to them, instead of transferring them untranslated into the English. For example, he prefers the phrase *court of justice* to *dikastery*, or, as Mr. Grote would write it, *dikastery*, which he considers pedantic. It is true the English phrase, *court of justice*, does not exactly represent the Greek word *δικαστήριον*; but it is equally true that a modern ship differs materially from an Athenian *ναῦς*, which nobody scruples to translate *ship*. Each oration in this volume is preceded by an argument, giving a succinct account of the circumstances which led to its delivery, and other particulars respecting it. Useful notes are also subjoined. Besides this, there is an excellent chronological abstract of the events of Demosthenes' lifetime, and at the end are five appendices on subjects connected with the orations.

A Catalogue of Greek Verbs, Irregular and Defective, their leading Tenses and Dialectic Inflections, arranged in a Tabular Form. By J. S. Baird.—We demur altogether to Mr. Baird's assertion that persons engaged in tuition will admit the need of such a work as this. All that it contains may be found in the grammar and lexicon which every scholar must have. There is not a shadow of novelty either in the materials or in the plan. On the contrary,

there is plenty of what has long been obsolete among advanced scholars. The rules for the formation of the tenses are just the same as those given in the most antiquated grammars,—which, having been superseded by modern improvements, are now curiosities of the past. As Mr. Baird professes to have consulted Buttmann and Kühner, we are surprised that he did not turn them to better account. He might have found in them a much more philosophical explanation of the formation of tenses. We can understand the value of such a learned treatise as that of 'Carmichael on the Greek Verbs,' which gives all the forms in use, with authority for each,—though, strange to say, Mr. Baird seems never to have heard of it;—but why a separate book should be made up of nothing more than what already exists in every grammar or lexicon, passes our comprehension.

The Synoptical Euclid; with a peculiar Typographical Arrangement, by which is exhibited, without Abridgment of the Text, a Perspicuous Outline of each Demonstration. By S. A. Good.—The "peculiar typographical arrangement" mentioned above consists in printing the various conclusions established in the course of the proposition in italics, and numbering them. Mr. Good thinks the student will thus be enabled to see at a glance the leading steps of the demonstration, and get a clear notion of the whole, which he will find it easy to recall.

The Illustrated London Practical Geometry, and its Application to Architectural Drawing. By R. S. Burn.—An ordinary practical geometry—that is to say, a collection of definitions and mechanical rules for solving practical problems by the aid of instruments, without a word of theoretical reasoning—illustrated with rather more diagrams than usual. The work is disfigured by a greater number of typographical and other errors than are commonly found in such books. We have often heard of similar triangles, but Mr. Burn talks about similar angles,—meaning thereby equal angles! The use of two such words as synonymous discloses either ignorance or a culpable degree of carelessness. A new and useful feature of the work is, the chapter on the application of geometry to architectural drawing. It is right to observe that the curves, figures, and problems of which it treats are very numerous.

An Introduction to the Construction of Plane Geometrical Figures. By R. Burchett.—We cannot see the use of such a book as this; which is merely a collection of definitions and descriptions of the simplest geometrical figures, with questions. Surely nobody can become a practical artist without more knowledge of geometry than is here conveyed; and whatever book is used to supply the additional information required, will also contain all that is found here.

The Elements of Euclid; a new Text, based on that of Simson. Edited by H. J. Hose, B.A.—Mr. Hose has supplied all that was wanting in Simson's valuable work to render the propositions complete in every part—enunciation, construction, demonstration, and corollary. All possible hypotheses are taken into account, everything requiring proof is rigorously demonstrated, a full explanation is given of each step, and the corollaries, instead of being barely stated, are carefully worked out. Other good points about this edition are strict accuracy of expression, and distinctness of arrangement—the several parts of each proposition being clearly marked so as to facilitate the comprehension and recollection of the whole. To distinguish the lines drawn in construction from those given in the enunciation, the editor has had the latter printed much thicker than usual—so thick, indeed, as to present a most glaring contradiction of the mathematical definition of a line as having "neither breadth nor thickness, but length only." We think his object might have been quite as effectually gained, in a manner less liable to objection, by using dotted lines to indicate the part of the figure involved in the construction.

Outlines of Scriptural Geography and History. By E. Hughes.—To expect that those whose minds are pre-occupied with modern European notions can enter into all the customs and ideas of ancient Oriental nations, without some knowledge of their

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geography and history, is altogether out of the question; and we know not where such information could be found more clearly stated and better arranged than in the present volume.

The History of England made Easy. By Two Sisters.—In simplicity of language nothing is wanting; but neatness and elegance should have been studied a little more. A word may be said in praise of the propriety of sentiment and freedom from party spirit exhibited by the writers.

The Elegies of Propertius—[*Sec. Aurelii Propertii Carmina.*] With English Notes, by F. A. Paley.—It is well known to Latin scholars, that Propertius is in some respects a better model of elegiac versification than either Ovid or Tibullus. If, like the Greeks, he indulges in greater freedom in the construction of the pentameter than is generally considered lawful, it must be admitted that he turns this liberty to good account. What he loses in neatness he gains in variety and power. His lines, though occasionally wanting in the smoothness and artificial regularity of Ovid, are free from the tameness and monotony by which that writer's couplets are distinguished. In his hands the elegiac distich becomes a more powerful instrument for the expression of poetic thought and feeling than those who are strangers to him would suppose possible. Its tones reflect all the varied emotions of the soul, from deepest tenderness to deadly hate,—from ardent admiration to bitter scorn,—from calm confidence to torturing jealousy,—and from joyous hilarity to saddest melancholy. Propertius is no less remarkable for sweetness and beauty than for variety and power. Nothing can exceed the elegance of some of his elegies. Yet, in spite of all his excellencies, he is comparatively little read in this country. The reasons assigned by Mr. Paley for this neglect are—the difficulty of understanding him, and the objectionable moral tone pervading his poetry. There is another circumstance which may have contributed something towards the result,—and that is, the want of any suitable edition. We think, with Mr. Paley, it reflects little honour upon English scholarship that, with one doubtful exception, not a single critical edition of this author has been published in England. But when we speak of a suitable edition, we mean one that, besides being critical, may be put into the hands of youth.

Now, Mr. Paley, with every disposition to extenuate the faults of Propertius, is repeatedly compelled to express strong disapprobation of his moral sentiments, and plainly intimates that he considers it neither to be expected nor desired that young people should be admitted to an indiscriminate perusal of his poems. On the other hand, he warmly recommends the study of this writer to persons of riper years,—both on account of the archaeological and historical information to be derived from his works, and as a means of mastering the Latin language, which he calls "the most important language of antiquity." Of the manner in which Mr. Paley has performed his editorial duties, we are bound to speak in terms of approbation. The task which he undertook was one of no ordinary difficulty; but, by dint of great labour and care, he has succeeded in producing an edition, not merely very superior to any that has appeared here, but worthy to stand beside the best of which German scholarship can boast. In forming his text he proceeds upon sound principles of criticism, avoiding the two extremes of random conjecture, and a blind adherence to the authority of MSS. and other editions. Passages which previous editors have tampered with because they could not understand them, Mr. Paley has restored to their original purity,—giving, at the same time, a satisfactory explanation of their purport. He seems to be endowed with a sort of intuitive aptitude in seizing at once upon the true meaning, and stripping it of all the encumbrances by which it is obscured. There are few passages about which the student can feel any doubt after reading his elucidations. The preface contains a good account of the three principal MSS. and the various editions that have been founded upon them.

The Politics and Economics of Aristotle, translated, &c., to which are prefixed an Essay and a Life of Aristotle, by Dr. Gillies. By E. Walford, M.A.—

If it be true, as Professor Newman and other scholars declare, that the study of the ancient classics, and especially the Greek, is declining among us, it is the more desirable that the best possible substitutes for the originals should be provided. One of the arguments used by the opponents of classical instruction is, that all the practical advantage of reading the works of eminent Greek and Latin authors may be much more easily secured through the medium of translations. How far this is true, we shall not now stop to inquire; but it is quite clear that whatever truth it has must depend on the character of the translation. Unless translation fairly represents the sense of the original, the argument can have no force; and it is only in proportion as it approximates to a perfect representation, that the benefit to be derived from its perusal can be at all compared with that of studying the Latin or Greek. Perhaps there is no ancient author from whom more practical instruction—applicable to the present and to all time—may be derived than Aristotle, whose authority was for ages paramount among the schools, and who was almost idolized as a sort of infallible teacher, by a mind so pre-eminently practical a turn, and deeply imbued with modern ideas, as that of the late Dr. Arnold, of Rugby. This eminent scholar considered it scarcely possible for any one thoroughly to understand the various political and ecclesiastical questions of these days, without having previously studied the Stagirate philosopher,—and repeatedly declared that he daily experienced the benefits of his invaluable instruction. The present translation is well fitted to place those benefits within the reach of all English readers. Whatever can be done to make up for an inability to read the Greek has been accomplished by Mr. Walford,—whose version conveys the true sense of the original in language at once perspicuous and correct. Further assistance is afforded by the notes, and especially by the full analysis of each work at the beginning, together with the brief headings which accompany the text. Dr. Gillies's 'Life of Aristotle,' and the same writer's 'Introduction to the Politics,' contribute to the completeness and value of the work.

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SONNET.—DECEMBER.

THE unseen Presence with the noiseless wing—
Time—has swept bare the bounteous earth at last,
And Summer's green and crimson shows have past
From out men's sight, like cloud-shapes when winds
sing.

The seeds, which from the year's great ripening
Were shaken, and within the warm earth cast,
Live but in future life, and, slumbering fast,
Lie waiting for the vital breath of Spring.

And all is thoughtful, vacant, dusk, and still;
A sabbath pause, a resting everywhere,
A sleep and a thanksgiving, which now fill
The world, and make its bareness seem less bare.
The winds are laid, no sound is in the rill,
And not a murmur ripples the smooth air.

EDMUND OLLIER.

IF THAT WERE TRUE!

'Tis long ago,—we have toiled and traded,
Have lost and fretted, have gained and grieved,
Since last the light of that fond faith faded,
But, friends!—in its day—what we believed!
The poet's dreams and the peasant's stories,
Oh, never will time that trust renew!
Yet they were old on the earth before us,
And lovely tales,—had they but been true!

Some space of homes in the greenwood hidden,
Where age was fearless and youth was free,
Where none at life's board seemed guests unbidden,
But men had years like the forest tree;
Goodly and fair and full of summer,
As lives went by when the world was new,
Ere over the angel steps passed from her,—
Oh, dreamers and bards, if that were true!

Some told us then of a stainless standard,
Of hearts that only in death grew cold,
Whose march was ever in freedom's vanguard,
And not to be stayed by steel or gold.
The world to their very graves was debtor,
The tears of her love fell there like dew,—
But there had been neither slave nor fetter
This day in her realms, had that been true!

Our hope grew strong as the giant slayer.—
They told that life was an honest game,
Where fortune favoured the fairest player,
And only the false found loss and blame;—
That men were honoured for gifts and graces,
And not for the prizes folly drew;
But there would be many a change of places
In hovel and hall, if that were true!

Some said to our silent souls, what fear ye?
And talked of a love not based on clay,
Of faith that would neither wane nor weary,
With all the dust of the pilgrim's day.—
They said that fortune and time were changers,
But not by their tides such friendships grew;
Oh, we had never been trustless strangers
Among our people, if that were true!

And yet since the fairy time hath perished,
With all its freshness from hills and hearts,
The last of its lore so vainly cherished,
Is not for these days of schools and marts.
Up, up! for the heavens still circle o'er us,
There's wealth to win and there's work to do,
There's a sky above, and a grave before us,
And, brothers, beyond them all is true!

FRANCES BROWN.

London, 1853.

MID-WINTER DAY.

Au! dim this day, Beloved, and dim thine eyes,
But perched in yon black fir
Bold Redbreast blithely chirrups as he flies,
"Spring, Spring's 'astir!"

Spring is astir—not in my sight, but thought,
This sunless Twenty-first,
Because despair its cry from hope hath caught,
"This is the worst!"

For every step adown the Alpine peak
Leads to the laughing vale;
The snow itself yields flowers—Beloved, thy cheek
Is but as pale.

MARY BROTHERTON.

CENTRAL AFRICA.

IN addition to the information which we published December 10, we may now add an extract from a letter received by Colonel Sabine from Dr. Vogel, dated Mourzuk, October 14, 1853.

"You will receive, through the Foreign-office, a packet of astronomical, meteorological, and magnetical observations made on the way from Tripoli and since my arrival here. My instruments are almost all in good condition, although their cases have been split from the effects of heat and dryness, notwithstanding their double, and in some instances, triple, leather protection. I saw the great comet for the first time on the 23rd of August, but others had seen it three days earlier. Its nucleus was very bright, resembling a star of the first magnitude, with a distinctly defined disk, of the apparent diameter of Jupiter. The tail made an angle of 86° or 87° with the horizon, inclining to the north. It was a single tail with almost precisely parallel sides. Its length was 10° on the 25th August; 12° on the 28th, and 15° on the 29th. I have repeatedly seen here the apparent fluctuation in the position of stars which is spoken of in the third volume of 'Cosmos,' and I have sent the particulars of my observations to Baron Von Humboldt.

"There is no regular rainy season at Mourzuk; but slight showers occur sometimes in the winter and spring; seldom in the autumn. Heavy rain is considered a great calamity, as it destroys all the houses, which are built of mud dried in the sun. It also kills the date-trees, by dissolving the salt which exists in large quantities in the soil. About 12 years ago above 12,000 date-trees perished in the neighbourhood of Mourzuk, on account of rain which continued for seven days. The prevailing winds are south and east; the strongest generally west or north-west. I have seen whirlwinds two or three times pass through the town,—a phenomenon which was common in

the desert between Bencolua and Mourzuk: all the whirlwinds which I observed turned from east to north, and went to south.

"In December and during the first half of January, the thermometer falls at sunrise, at Mourzuk, as low as 42°; and in places exposed to the wind water freezes during the night. At Sakna, I could not find any one who could remember having seen snow. At Tripoli we had heavy dews at night, and I observed the same until we had passed a small chain of mountains fifteen miles north of Sakna. Thence we had no dew, and it was often impossible to obtain the dew point with Daniell's hygrometer. In the desert the thermometer generally rose till 4 p.m. from the sand (which was sometimes heated to 140°), giving out its heat. Earthquakes are sometimes felt. Great numbers of shooting stars were observed on the 7th, 8th, and 31st of July; very few on the evenings of the 9th, 10th, and 11th of August; but they were again very numerous on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of October."

GEOGRAPHICAL NOMENCLATURE.

It is the privilege of the Commanders of Discovery Expeditions to attach what names they please to the sites which they discover; and it is a time-honoured custom to call such sites by the names of celebrated persons,—particularly of men remarkable for pursuits in connexion with physical geography.

It was in this spirit that Sir Edward Parry, in 1819-20, named the extensive land which he saw to the south-west of Melville Island, Banks Land. That his object was, to honour Sir Joseph Banks, is evident; for he says in his journal:—"This land was honoured with the name of Banks Land, out of respect to the late venerable and worthy President of the Royal Society, whose long life was actively engaged in the encouragement and promotion of discovery and general science."—Well did Sir Joseph Banks deserve that honour; for to his unwearied exertions in favour of Arctic Expeditions we are indebted for a very considerable portion of our knowledge of those regions.

It is not a little curious that Sir Edward Parry, who in his journal frequently alludes to this land, appears to have come to the conclusion that it was an island. He observes:—"The loom of the land was frequently seen as far as south-east, bearing from the present station of the ships, which corresponds with the appearances often observed during our stay in Winter Harbour:—as I have scarcely a doubt, therefore, that this forms a continuation of Banks Land, which is in all probability another island of the North Georgian group, I have marked it on the chart by an unshaded line as far as the above bearing."—It will be remembered, that although Sir Edward Parry spoke thus positively of the existence of this land, the fact was doubted by many Arctic geographers,—including Sir John Barrow.—The explorations of Capt. McClure are conclusive,—and show not only that Sir E. Parry was right as to the existence of Banks Land, but also that it is an island, as he conjectured.

Under these circumstances, I am grieved that Capt. McClure should have called it "Baring Island." This nomenclature, if allowed to stand, will have the effect of removing the honoured name of Banks from that part of the Arctic regions.—I am aware that the Captain proposes still to call the southern extremity of the island "Banks" Land;—but assuredly it would be more appropriate to bestow the name of Banks on the island itself,—and to call the southern portion, which was discovered by Capt. McClure, "Baring Land."

In what he has done in this matter Capt. McClure, of course, thought only of complimenting the gentleman who was at the head of the Admiralty when he left England:—but this intention would be accomplished by giving the name of Baring to the south of the Island.

I am, &c.

C. R. WELD.

Somerset House.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Two series of publications are about to appear which we may conveniently add to the lists of new works and serials recently given in our columns. These are,—a new library edition of "Standard Historical Authors and other Modern Classics,"—and a new "Foreign Theological Library." The first series here named is announced as in course of preparation by Mr. Tallant,—and a great pretension is made of this publisher being about to supply "a handsome series of books" at an unusually low price, "good editions of which either do not exist or are published at a price so high as to prevent," &c. Such assertions about "standard authors," "unusually low prices," "best editions" made us turn with interest to the details of this new scheme. On examination, we found that the price of each volume is to be the same as that for Mr. Bohn's Standard Library and British Classics:—there is consequently no novelty as to price. This, however, is a small matter. Not so the selection of books. The very first work on the list here given—a list of about thirty writers and perhaps a hundred volumes—may suggest the character of the whole. It is 'Rollin's Ancient History'! Does Mr. Tallant or his editor—if he have one—really believe that Rollin—poor, ponderous, and exploded Rollin—is a "standard author and modern classic"? Hume will pass—inaccurate as he is—on account of his style and his philosophy; but no one has a right to publish a new edition of Hume, especially for a popular library, without careful editing. Johnson's 'Lives,' the 'Spectator,' and the 'Tatler' are on every book-stall,—nor is there in this list a single work of which cheap editions are not plenty as blackberries. Mr. Tallant announces new editions of Clarendon's 'Rebellion' and Burnet's 'Own Times.' Is he aware that the only complete editions of these celebrated works are the property of the Oxford University Press? If so, how can he promise his subscribers works which no private publisher has a right to reprint?—The second series under notice is to proceed from the press of Messrs. T. & T. Clark, of Edinburgh. The Foreign Theology is to be chiefly from German sources,—the publishers in this case answering for the soundness of the several doctrines brought home from beyond the Rhine.

We have Mr. Bentley's authority for stating that the experiment made by him of a large reduction in the price of novels has failed for want of public support—as we feared, when the announcement was first made, would ultimately prove to be the case. "I frankly confess," says Mr. Bentley, "that the editor was right, and consequently that I was wrong in the supposition that the increased sale would enable me still to secure the interests of authors as well as those of the publishers." The circulating libraries, it appears, did not approve or appreciate the change, as was expected by Mr. Bentley. He consequently returns to the old system.

The collection of letters, noticed by us last week, as having been written by Charles the First, during his residence at Carisbrook Castle, to Sir William Hopkins, sold for 51 guineas.

The Nonconformist body have sustained a loss in the person of Dr. Wardlaw, one of the most active of their writers and preachers. He was the author of several works, polemical and theological.—Another of that band of clever young men which Armand Carrel gathered round him in the early days of King Louis Philippe, to make war on the "throne of the barricades" in the columns of the *National*, has passed away in the person of Arnold Scheffer. The deceased author was the brother of Ary Scheffer, the well-known artist.

Italian papers announce the death of Signor Tommaso Grossi—the poet—and in some opinions the rival of Manzoni. The poet died at Milan on the 10th instant.

Despatches, giving a report of the proceedings of the Plover in Behring Strait during the past summer, have been received at the Admiralty. They do not add much information to that already in our possession. The more important features are, that it appears certain that the *Enterprise*, as well as the *Investigator*, was boarded by the natives off Point

Barrow.
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Barrow. Capt. Maguire, the commander of the *Plover*, arrives at this conclusion from the very accurate description given by the natives of both the above ships. A small relic of the Investigator was discovered—consisting of a piece of paper, on which was written, “off Point Drew, 8th August, 1850,” with the canvas bag that had inclosed it. With reference to the progress of these ships, Capt. Maguire observes—“It might be expected that the movements in the ice at Point Barrow would give some idea of the site of the current in that part of the Polar sea; but our observations can go no further than to confirm the belief in the existence of a current to the north-east, to a distance of only a few miles off the land; beyond that a line of hummocky ice, from 10 to 20 feet in height, has existed all the winter, apparently aground in six fathoms. Beyond this line scarcely a day passed throughout the winter without a water-sky being visible between west, south-west, and north-east. This information respecting the *Enterprise*, if correct, must diminish our fears for her safety. If she passed along the North American coast, as the natives state to have been the case, then, in all probability, she has followed in the track of her consort the *Investigator*; and should she have been fatally nipped by the ice, her vicinity to the land would render the escape and safety of the crew an easy matter. Capt. Trollope, of the *Rattlesnake*, reports that after the *Plover* was fully re-stored, she sailed on the 24th of August last from Point Spencer for Point Barrow, where she was expected to arrive before the close of the open season.

We are informed that Mr. C. Rolt, the Academy student who carried off the gold medal of the year for Historical Painting, is not the son of the Member of Parliament—as we were led to imagine. His father—as we are told—is a pattern designer, living at Merton.

M. Elie de Beaumont has been elected Secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences, in the room of the late M. Arago. M. Dupin contested the place with M. de Beaumont. The number of votes were—M. de Beaumont, 29; M. Dupin, 17. It is understood that M. Leverrier is to be appointed Keeper of the Observatory.

We hear from Paris, that the arrangements in connexion with the Great Industrial Congress of 1855 are being rapidly completed. The names of the members of the Commission, which is to be presided over by Prince Napoleon Bonaparte, son of Jerome, will be made public in a day or two; and we believe that it has been decided that the building in the Champs Elysées, which is now nearly completed, is to be considered merely as a permanent centre, round which the special buildings, necessary for this great occasion, are to be erected. It is said that the total space to be covered will equal that occupied by our own Exhibition in Hyde Park.

We hear with satisfaction that, at the instance of Prof. Owen, Col. Sykes has presented an appointment as Assistant-Surgeon in the Bombay Army, to Dr. Henry Gould, eldest son of the well-known naturalist. The appointment, as we understand, has been given on purely scientific grounds,—and it is a very graceful recognition on the part of Col. Sykes of the father's long and useful career in the service of natural history, as well as an opening for the abilities of the son. We take the opportunity of a reference to this subject to add, that the Directors of the East India Company have given Mr. Gould another and scarcely less flattering testimonial, in the shape of a subscription for forty copies of his great and expensive work, now in course of publication, “*The Birds of Asia*.”

Besides the additions to the Pension List mentioned by us last week, the *Scotman* announces, that a pension of 100*l.* a year has been conferred on the family of the late Mr. James Simpson,—in recognition of their father's unwearied services for the cause of National Education and his exertions in aid of every modern philanthropic movement.

Next month the Society of Arts and College of Physicians are bound to award the Swiney Prize of a silver goblet, holding 100 sovereigns, to the Author of the best published Treatise on Jurisprudence relating to Arts and Sciences. This prize is open to works in all languages—which have been published during the last five years, and it is not

necessary that the work should have been produced especially for this purpose. Consequently, the award is likely to be all the better, if works having earned an European reputation are suggested to the Council of the Society of Arts as worthy of it, and we have reason to think they are not indisposed to receive such notices.

Members of the Scottish Universities, following the example set before them in London, are stirring in the question of Parliamentary representation. A meeting has been held on this subject in the hall of the Glasgow Philosophical Society.

The following appointments have been made by the Council of King's College, London, consequent on the vacancy in the List of Professors created by the removal of the Rev. F. D. Maurice. The Rev. Dr. M'Caul is elected into the Chair of Ecclesiastical History,—in addition to that of History and the Old Testament hitherto held by him. A lecturer is to be appointed to relieve Dr. M'Caul by instructing the junior classes in Hebrew. The Chair of English Literature and Modern History is filled by the nomination of Mr. G. W. Dasset, of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, Doctor of Civil Law.

The following from a Correspondent speaks for itself.—“I have read the Review in the *Athenæum* of the 3rd of December on Beauchamp Tower:—there are a few points which, for truth's sake, require correction. I have nothing to do with, and therefore feel I ought to say nothing of, the literary part of the work reviewed. I leave this for the judgment of the public, and, with the aid of your criticism, I doubt not they will arrive at a proper conclusion. My observations will be confined solely to the last paragraph of your article. You say there, ‘Mr. Dick we have little doubt is a clever person in his own profession. His restoration of Beauchamp Tower, with drawbacks already pointed out, is creditable to his taste and skill.’ Now, in fact, Mr. Dick is not entitled to the praise contained in that passage, and ‘the drawbacks’ you allude to there he is consequently not answerable for. That gentleman was not the architect employed at the Tower. It is Mr. Salvin's taste and skill that are exercised in restoring that interesting portion of the Old Fortress, while he filled (and I believe now fills) such responsible office; Mr. Dick occupying the subservient one of clerk of the works. You say further, ‘His various drawings are also to be commended as faithful copies of the inscriptions on the wall.’ Herein also you unwittingly err, the plates in the work were not taken from his drawings. All the original plates (except one which Mr. Dick did not do,) were drawn by me from casts taken from the walls of the Tower, or were redrawn by me from very rough and unintelligible sketches of his own, with the aid of my own inspection of the inscriptions themselves; and were from such drawings lithographed by me. I do not, of course, include here the two plates copied from Bailey's ‘Tower of London.’ Mr. Dick refused to allow my name to appear on the plates, because it had not been expressly stipulated for in writing. I do not pretend that there is any merit in such part of the work. Your favourable criticism was, I presume, rather induced by your indulgence than by my deserts, but I am sure both you and the public will feel interested in knowing the truth. At the same time Mr. Dick, I conceive, would not wish to obtain praise at my expense—for ‘praise undeserved,’ &c. I am, &c., J. C. L. SPARKES.”

As an additional inducement to the Trustees of the British Museum to obtain the Fawcett collection of antiquities, we understand that Mr. Wylie has offered, on that condition, to present them with his museum of Gloucestershire antiquities, consisting chiefly of the Anglo-Saxon relics which form the subject of his work on the Fairford Groves.

On Monday next an Exhibition will be opened at Kensington Gore—there being no room at Marlborough House—of the Elementary Works of the Students of all the Schools of Art, in connexion with the Department of Science and Art. This is the first exhibition since the establishment of self-supporting schools; and it is subjecting them to a somewhat severe test to place their works in juxtaposition with the productions of the subsidized schools, many of which have been in existence for ten years.

Col. Mure, as chairman of the Committee on the National Gallery—whose Report is noticed more at length in our Review department—has written to a morning contemporary to explain that the Report to which his signature is attached does not embody the whole of his opinions on the changes now to be effected, and the system to be hereafter adopted. Col. Mure very properly points out the duties of such a chairman—and he disclaims, as he has every right to do, being so minded, the responsibility of certain views and recommendations, as to picture cleaning and other matters, which appear in the Report as it now stands. His own opinions, where he differs with his colleagues and where he agrees with them, are placed on record as they deserved to be, in the draft reports prepared by him, in accordance with the duties and privileges of chairmen in such cases. In our notice of the Report, August 20, we quoted several excellent passages from these draft reports,—omitting to state, as we should have done, that some of these passages are ultimately excluded from the report as adopted in committee. Col. Mure drew attention to this error—an error of form only, which affects neither the logic nor the personality of our argument, and we willingly accord to him a note of rectification.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday last contains an Order in Council extending the laws of Copyright as existing in works published in the United Kingdom to works just published within the State of Hanover. This order takes effect from the 16th of the present month—as does another published in the same day's *Gazette*, making the following alterations in the duties of Customs payable on importations of books published within the State of Hamburg. Works republished in Hamburg are to pay 2*l.* 10*s.* per cwt.,—if not originally produced in the United Kingdom, the duty will be 15*s.* per cwt.; single prints 1*d.*,—bound or sewn 1*d.* the dozen.

On Thursday evening Mr. Russell Hind, our well-known planet-finder, gave a lecture on Eclipses of the Sun and the phenomena attending them, in the hall of the St. John's Wood Library Society. Mr. Hind described the more remarkable eclipses of which history has kept the record, and drew attention to the great eclipse that will be next visible in this country—the full eclipse of the sun in March 1858.

Mr. Pierce's Presidential Message to Congress, now going the round of European journals, has a paragraph to which we would draw the attention of our readers now, in the hope of being able ere long to lay before them a complete statement of its details. The paragraph in the Message is headed “Rewards to Men of Genius”—a novel heading for a great state paper. The American President says to Congress—“I recommend to your favourable consideration the men of genius of our country, who, by their inventions and discoveries in science and art, have contributed largely to the improvements of the age, without, in many instances, securing for themselves anything like an adequate reward.” We think it possible that these terms refer to contemplated changes in patent and other laws. The President continues—“For many interesting details upon this subject I refer you to the appropriate reports, and especially urge upon your early attention the apparently slight, but really important, modifications of existing laws therein suggested.” In its care for the welfare of “men of genius,” America is certainly setting an example to the nations of the elder world which they may study with profit and follow with advantage.

Our readers will remember the oddities of expression in the English translation of Miss Bremer's “*Homes of the New World*.” Of some of these, at least, Miss Bremer disclaims the literary responsibility. She writes:—

“Having obtained a copy of the English translation of my late work, ‘*Homes of the New World*,’ and having recently looked through some parts of it, I feel myself compelled to say a few words in reference to the same to my English readers. Although I certainly think the translation good and faithful on the whole—as far as I yet have seen—and in many parts even excellent, especially in the latter part of the work, still I find, in several places, and most so in the first volume, misconceptions as to words and meanings of the Swedish original, some of which must convey to the reader not acquainted with this impressions equally far from my mind and unjust to the persons or parties con-

cerned. The great difficulty of the translation of such a book, combined with the very unfavourable circumstances under which it was carried out, is enough to explain and excuse these mistakes. Still I owe it to my friends and to myself to state that there are such. As it is impossible for me to enumerate all particular cases, I will only say that if a reprint of the English translation, carefully corrected after the printed Swedish original, may take place, many things that may now justly give offence will entirely vanish or seem different. A few cases, just come under my eyes, I feel bound to name. In the first letter from New York (1st volume, page 16), I find it said about a lady as amiable as highly gifted—'She seemed to me a beautiful soul, but too angular to be happy.' The Swedish word translated by 'angular' is 'finknallig,' which signifies 'delicately sensitive.' A little further, I find, in a relation of a visit on the Hudson, to the excellent family II—, and of the acquaintance with the generally even in Scandinavia) esteemed and beloved American author, Washington Irving, several misconceptions of Swedish words and meanings far from agreeable. In the latter part of the same volume I observe, relating to the amiable old couple of Casa Bianca, a whole passage which I am sorry to see there. That passage (but which, by-the-by, does harm to nobody) in the manuscript letter, written in a moment of physical suffering and mental depression, it was agreed upon to leave entirely out of the printed work. It is not to be found in the Swedish book. How it has happened to be retained in the English translation, after the express agreement about its expulsion between myself and Mrs. Howitt, whose kind and generous mind was fully aware of its impropriety, is to me incomprehensible; and so are the remaining in English of two more passages of personal criticism expressly desired by me to be omitted, and neither of which is to be found in the English book. Of course, great difficulties must attend the communing and working in full harmony together in such matters, for two persons in far separated countries... but, as I cannot explain the named disagreement in these last cases, I can only state that so it is."

—Into the question of right or wrong as between author and translator, we cannot enter. But having ourselves objected to some of the points here corrected, we owe the above note of rectification to the Swedish author.

COLOSSEUM, Regent's Park.—Admission, 1s.—The original PANORAMA OF LONDON BY DAY is exhibited daily from half-past Ten till half-past Four. The extraordinary PANORAMA OF LONDON BY NIGHT, every Evening, Saturday excepted, from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till half-past Four, and during the evening several favourite Songs by Miss Schwieco.

CYCLOPAMA, Albany Street—LISBON AND EARTHQUAKE.—This celebrated and unique Moving Panorama, representing the destruction of Lisbon by Earthquake in 1755, exhibited daily, at Three; Evening, Saturday excepted, at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—ARCTIC DISCOVERIES.—An Illustrated Lecture on the NORTH-WEST PASSAGE the Pictorial Authorities principally contributed by Captain Inglefield, R.N., will precede the Pictures of CONSTANTINOPLE and ST. PETERSBURGH, and the highly popular DIORAMA of the OCEAN MAIL to the CAPE, INDIA and AUSTRALIA, exhibited daily at 3 and 1 o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Children, Half-price.

WINTER EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY.—An entirely New Collection of Photographic Pictures, including Mr. Robertson's Views of Constantinople, M. Martens's magnificent Scenery among the Glaciers of Switzerland, and Mr. De la Motte's Progress of the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, WILL BE OPENED, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, December 23.—Admission, 6d.—Photographic Institution, 108, New Bond Street.

CHRISTMAS WEEK.—MR. ALBERT SMITH will give his ASCENT OF MONT BLANC EVERY MORNING at Two o'clock, and EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) at Eight, during the Christmas week, and can be secured at the Box-Office every day, from Eleven to Four.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATRON:—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.—FIRST EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURES MAGNIFIED about 40,000 times on the Disc, with an entirely new series of DISSOLVING VIEWS.—LECTURE by DR. BACHHOFFNER on WILKINSON'S NEW PATENT UNIVERSAL ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—LECTURE by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION, with Brilliant Experiments.—AN HISTORICAL and MUSICAL LECTURE, illustrated with DISSOLVING SCENERY, entitled 'THE ROAD, the RIVER, and the RAIL,' by J. E. CARPENTER, Esq., assisted by Miss Blanche Younger, daily at a Quarter to Four, and every evening, except Saturday, at Nine o'clock.—Open Morning and Evening.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under Ten years of age, Half-price.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 14.—Professor E. Forbes, President, in the chair.—The Rev. Prof. S. Haughton, Prof. J. N. Loomis, M.D., the Rev. F. F. Statham, and S. Hingley, Esq., jun., were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read:—Dr. J. D. Hooker, 'On a Specimen of a new Species of *Volkmania* (*V. Morrii*), in a State of Fructification, from the Coal-shale of Glasgow.'—Mr. Davidson, 'On the Structure of the *Chonetes comoides*, a Fossil Shell of the Productida family, from the Mountain Limestone.'—Prof. Owen, 'On some Cranial Bones of a Sauroid Batrachian Reptile, related to the *Triassic Capitosaurus* and *Metopias*, imbedded in a Mass of Coal

from the Pictou Coal-field, Nova Scotia.'—Mr. J. W. Salter, 'On a Series of small Tracks in the "Lingula Flags" of Ffestiniog and Tremadoc, North Wales, assigned to the little *Hymenocaris*, a shrimp-like Crustacean, which occurs in these lowest fossiliferous rocks, in company with *Lingula Davisi* and *Olenus micurus*.'

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Dec. 14.—Sir John Dorant, V.P., in the chair.—The Rev. H. Burgess was elected a member.—Mr. Vaux read a paper by Capt. Ormsby, 'On the name given by Pharaoh to the Patriarch Joseph.' The object of Capt. Ormsby's paper was to show that the translation in the margin of our Bibles of the name *Zaphnath-paaneah* (the title which was given to Joseph), viz. "Revealer of Secrets," was not confirmed by the analysis of the syllables of the name itself, but that, on the other hand, a more natural one was discoverable. Capt. Ormsby remarked that there was nothing in the Sacred narrative that would lead us to suppose that the Patriarch either became himself a Pharaoh, or was deified as Hermes, as some have supposed. It is clear that Pharaoh did not lose sight of the fact that Joseph was a foreigner and, as such, an abomination to the native population. While we know that, after his death, though he was embalmed after the fashion in Egypt, he was not placed in any of the chambers of the Egyptian dead—but was, eventually, conveyed to the land from whence he came. His position and rank were, however, secured to him by his investiture with the collar and raiment of fine linen, and by the reception of the royal signet ring, which was placed upon his finger—but, still more so, by his marriage with the daughter of the High Priest of On (the Heliopolis of the Greeks, and one of the most sacred of the ancient cities of Egypt)—and by his subsequent naturalization—which was completed by a change of name—a custom prevalent in Egypt then, as it still is throughout the Oriental world. Capt. Ormsby then proceeded to reduce the words *Zaphnath-paaneah* to their equivalents in hieroglyphical consonants—and showed by comparison of words in 'The Book of the Dead' that they may be interpreted 'The Sustainer of Life'—or 'The Support of Pharaoh.' The same result he proved to follow by an analysis of the title, as spelt in the Septuagint.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Dec. 5.—E. Newman, Esq., F.L.S., President, in the chair.—R. G. Schofield, Esq., and W. Groves, were elected, and five new members were proposed. The Secretary announced that the Council had resolved to distribute among the members the duplicate British Lepidoptera in the Society's possession.—Capt. C. J. Cox presented specimens of the bark and wood of Elm and Ash, illustrating the different ways of mining pursued by the larvae of *Cossus ligniperda*, *Scolytus destructor*, and *Hylesinus fraxini*. From the vast and rapid increase of the Scolytus, extensive damage had already accrued to the elm trees in the parks and the neighbourhood of London, and also in many other places, and he was certain that unless means were speedily adopted to check the evil, in 60 or 70 years there would not be an elm tree near London. Contrary to the general notion, he had ascertained that sound young trees were attacked, rendered diseased, and ultimately killed by the injuries inflicted on them by Scolytus. By experiments in the gardens of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, he found that a diseased tree could be rendered sound and healthy by removing the bark from the part affected, and destroying it;—the Cossus had been removed by cutting out; and the tree operated upon soon recovered. The injurious effect produced both by Scolytus and Cossus he attributed in a great measure to a poisonous quality in the excrement of the larva.—Mr. Westwood said Audouin had shown him, at Paris, that the female Scolytus first attacked a tree for food, and then other females followed and deposited their eggs in the exposed place.—Mr. Curtis had never known young trees attacked, and he doubted if any trees were infested until they were diseased or decaying from age.—Capt. Cox replied, that he had known the eggs laid on sound trees; that the insects eat into

dead wood only after the bark and alburnum were exhausted; and that the trees in the Regent's Park were growing vigorously when first attacked, and after being operated on recovered their health.—Mr. Wallace read the concluding portion of his 'Notes on the Habits of the Butterflies of the Amazonian Valley.'

CHEMICAL.—Dec. 5.—Col. Philip Yorke, President, in the chair.—Mr. Witt read a paper 'On the Analysis of the Ash of Lemon-Juice.'—He referred to the difference of opinion as to the cause of the value of lemon-juice as an anti-scorbutic, some attributing its effect to the acid, and others, with Dr. Garrod, believing that it supplied potash to the constitution of the patient. The author had found 44 per cent. of potash in the ash, along with lime and other substances. The whole quantity of the alkali in the juice was very small, only 17 grains in 1,000 grains.—Dr. Bruce Jones expressed his conviction that the action of this remedy was not due to the very small quantity of potash it contained, but rather to the citric acid, which had an effect upon the system, analogous to, but much less than, that of oxalic acid.—A paper was then read 'On Platino-Tersulphocyanides and Platino-Bisulphocyanides,' by Mr. G. B. Buckton,—being a continuation of his researches on the compounds of platinum. He presented a number of specimens of his new compounds to the Museum of the Society.

Dec. 19.—Col. Philip Yorke in the chair.—A paper, by Mr. Howe, was read, calling attention to some remarkable phenomena attending the solution of a platinum and silver alloy, in nitric acid.—Dr. Gladstone read a paper 'On the so-called Iodide and Chloride of Nitrogen.' Dr. Gladstone had also succeeded, by means of sulphurous acid, in analyzing the heavy explosive fluid usually called chloride of nitrogen. He found its composition to be N 2, H Cl 5.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 13.—J. M. Rendel, Esq., President, in the chair.—The discussion was resumed on Mr. Harrison's paper, 'On the Drainage of the District South of the Thames.'—The system of sewerage introduced at Hamburg, since the great fire, by Mr. Lindley, was alluded to, as a good instance of the efficiency of the plan of flushing sewers, even in very flat districts, and with syphon dips, when there existed a head of water like that from the Alster lake, which was 13 feet above the high-water mark of the Elbe. The culvert through which the river Froome passes beneath the float, and flows into the Bristol river, was also described, and from these and other examples of the advantages of flushing sewers, that system was urged to be preferable to the labour and expense of pumping up from depths below low water mark the ordinary sewage contents, without dealing with the rain-water falling during thunderstorms, which it was contended could not be raised by any amount of steam-power which could be practically adopted.—The best systems proposed were stated to be, the interception of the highland waters, the carrying away by gravitation all the contents of the sewers which could be discharged into a low point of the Thames by natural means, and resorting to pumping only for such portions of the metropolis as were too low for any other system.—The question of pipe drains and brick sewers was again entered upon, and it appeared that experience confirmed the previous impressions of the applicability of the pipes to house drainage only, where they had rapid fall and were of sufficient area, but that nothing could be relied on for street sewers except brick constructions sufficiently large to permit access within them;—they should also be permeable, so as to act as drains in conveying away the land water from the district which they traversed. The further consideration of the question was adjourned until the evening of Tuesday, January 10th, 1854.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 14.—Harry Chester, Esq., in the chair.—The paper read was 'On British Agriculture, with some Account of his own Operations,' by Mr. I. J. Mechi. Mr. Mechi stated that he intended chiefly to call attention to the new

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method of irrigation, and the application of steam to cultivation. His balance-sheet this year gave a favourable result—in rent, profit and interest nearly 600*l.*; and this notwithstanding the purchase of 700*l.* worth of corn, oil-cake, &c. for the live stock. Nearly the whole difference between this balance-sheet and the former one arose in the live stock account. By irrigation he was enabled to double, if not triple, his green and root crops, and thus render them profitable. It was clear that if he could double his stock, he doubled his manure, and thus affected importantly the cereal crops. If he doubled his green and root crops, he would diminish his cost one half. This was what he had done. To irrigate a farm of 200 acres would require:—four-horse steam power; fifteen yards per acre of three-inch iron pipe; a circular tank, about thirty feet in diameter, and twenty feet deep; two hundred yards of two-inch gutta percha hose; a gutta percha jet; and a pair of force-pumps, capable of discharging 100 gallons per minute. At present prices all these could be obtained at a cost of about 6*l.* per acre, so that the tenant paying 9*s.* per acre to his landlord for such an improvement, would be a gainer. Of course, without drainage, natural or artificial irrigation would be injurious. There could be no doubt as to the necessity for tapping sand or peat pots, or other natural and free receivers of water when surrounded by tenacious clays. Up and down drains would generally do this, but where they did not, lateral branches might be added. Every farmer with 200 or 300 acres who had not a steam-engine, had a great lesson to learn, as a good four-horse power steam-engine worked at from 70*lb.* to 90*lb.* to the inch would tire any sixteen real horses that could be found, the comparative cost being 150*l.* against 600*l.*, besides eating nothing when not at work, occupying less space, and economizing an immense outlay in casualties by disease, cost of attendance, and daily food. Mr. Mechi alluded to Mr. Romaine's steam-cultivator, and to Mr. Usher's steam-plough; both of which he thought might be made sufficiently powerful to work forty acres or even one hundred acres a day. The former machine would, if required, deposit the seed and roll the land at the same time; and when not cultivating it would be available for driving the threshing-machine, mill-stones, irrigating-pumps, chaff and turnip-cutters, and cake-breakers. The new American threshing-machine was an implement that would supersede ours in cost, utility, lightness, durability, and general economy; but instead of working it by horse-power as had been proposed, he had attached a small portable steam-engine of four-horse power to the machine, and proved its advantage over a relay of eight horses.

Dec. 19.—W. Bird, Esq., in the chair.—This was an adjourned meeting, for the purpose of renewing the discussion 'On the Consumption of Smoke.'

Dec. 21.—Harry Chester, Esq., in the chair.—The first paper read was 'On Pettitt's Fisheries Guano,' by Mr. Horace Green. Guano was first brought to England as an object of merchandise in 1839. It had been used in Peru for 600 years and upwards, and the island depositaries had been for ages under the management of the State. In five years (1845-50) nearly 650,000 tons of guano had been brought almost round the world for the stimulation of the soils of this country; but it was generally believed that the principal supply from Peru was past. From the mean of many analyses of different varieties, it was stated that the amount of ammonia was, in Saldanha Bay, 1.68 per cent.; in Patagonia, 2.55 per cent.; in Cape and Algoa Bay, 2.00 per cent., and in the New Islands, 1.96 per cent.; but in phosphate of lime, which was the next most important element, these guanos were richer as they were poorer in ammonia. The mean amount of phosphate of lime was, in Saldanha Bay, 55.40 per cent.; in Patagonia, 44.60 per cent.; in Cape and Algoa Bay 20.00 per cent., and in the New Islands, 62.80. The question, however, arose whether or not large quantities of such manures could be sold at a price which should not exceed the home cost of superphosphate of lime. Reference was then made to

the Guano Substitute Prize of 1,000*l.* and the gold medal, which were offered by the Royal Agricultural Society for the discovery of a manure equal in its fertilizing properties to Peruvian guano, and which could be sold at a price not exceeding 5*l.* per ton; and it was contended that, as according to the composition of guano, as given by Prof. Way, and to the known value of these several articles in the markets of commerce, the value of a ton of such material would be upwards of 12*l.*, it was not at all probable that any one could dispose of it for 5*l.* The author then proceeded to describe the fisheries guano of Mr. Pettitt, and gave the results of several analyses, from which it was deduced that, according to the scale before alluded to, the mean value of the samples tested was 9*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* per ton.

The second paper was 'On Fish Manure as a Substitute for Guano,' by Mr. J. B. Lawes. He stated that some years ago an inquiry was instituted as to whether the offal and refuse fish of Newfoundland could be prepared into a manure at a cheaper rate than that already in the market, when it was found that there were difficulties in the way which led to the abandonment of the idea.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—Dec. 13.—Dr. John Lee in the chair.—Mr. W. H. Black gave an account of some sand obtained from the desert between Cairo (Kahira) and Suez (Siwa), by Lieut. Slater, of the Hon. E. I. C. S., which effervesces on the application of acids.—'On the Origin of the name Memphis,' by Dr. Loewe.—Dr. Loewe conceives that the original name Mof, or Nof, as it occurs in the Scriptures, must have been Nouf, or Nof, which he takes to be equivalent to Nob, or Nib, signifying 'Lord.' Menbe, he looks upon as a compound of *Mah* a place, *en* of, and *Nib* the 'Lord.' By the conversion of the *b* into *f*, and *n* into *m*, Membe seems to have become Memphis.—'Interpretation of an Inscription on one of the Female Palmyrean Busts in the possession of Mr. Picciotti,' by Dr. Loewe.—The inscription is in the Palmyrean, not Phœnician, orthography, and consists of four lines, the first of which is unfortunately deficient. Dr. Loewe reads these lines as follows:—

A token of affection, deposited by
The Servant of Hammon,
Senarda of the Pomegranate
Garden, the friend of the Radiant one,
(i.e. loving Hammon—the Sun).

Dr. Loewe supposes the statue to have been placed in the temple dedicated to the worship of the sun in Palmyra—the sun being worshipped as the productive power in groves or gardens, and apples and pomegranates being always considered as attributes of Baal and symbols of fruitfulness. These busts were originally sent to the Governor of Aleppo, where the name read by Dr. Loewe 'Senarda' was interpreted as having reference to Zenobia. By the advice of Mr. Hawkins, of the British Museum, they were sent from Aleppo to London. Unfortunately, Dr. Loewe had not an opportunity of examining the dress, and the ornaments on the head, neck, and arms.—Mr. Ainsworth read a paper, 'On the Mounds of North Syria,' in which he described nearly a hundred of those remarkable remains of antiquity, more especially in connexion with their past history, and strongly advocated their archaeological exploration.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Tues. Royal Institution, 8.—'On Voltaic Electricity,' by Prof. Faraday.
Thurs. Royal Institution, 8.—'On Voltaic Electricity,' by Prof. Faraday.
Sat. Royal Institution, 8.—'On Voltaic Electricity,' by Prof. Faraday.

FINE ARTS

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Photographic Views of Constantinople. By James Robertson, Esq. Cundall.

POETS, painters, professors, will disagree "to the end," as to the amount of pictorial value which can be reached by the paintings of the Sun:—when his easel (to speak fancifully) is set at the angle most convenient to him, and when the pigments which are his "vehicle" have been compounded with the chemist's most magic art. Some will protest against the elaborate truth of his pen-

cilling as too truthful, while, on the other hand, they will accuse him of falsifying shadows, to an extent savouring of caprice—the laws of which, at least, are far from being as yet ascertained. Others will accept his dealings and performances as virtually without a blemish, and appeal to such a volume as the one before us, as containing a series of splendid facts, justifying their enthusiastic admiration. It is too late in the old year to convince the cool, or to temper the over-ferocious on the subject,—too late to lecture from any book—specimen by specimen—whether in corroboration or in correction. Enough, therefore, to describe this publication as one of the most remarkable of its class: to which, moreover, extraneous interest is added, by the well-timed opportuneness of its appearance.—Here are twenty views of Constantinople, new and old—including three of the florid modern Italian buildings erected for the pleasure of Sultan Abdul Medjid—the third of these, No. 16, "The Kiosk"—with its dome and minarets gracefully exemplifying how styles so opposite as the *Renaissance* and the *Byzantine* in its sharpest purity can come together, on a certain fantastic neutral ground, which dogmatic science may disdain to acknowledge, but where imagination can disport herself comfortably. This No. 16—save for the odd terminal blackness of the minarets—hardly leaves anything to be desired. In No. 11, which is one of the palest specimens, the numerous subsidiary domes to the Mosque of Mahomet the Second, are traced with a lightness and precision which would puzzle the most cunning of "the Jesuits" who were so skilful in the subtleties of perspective to emulate. Most delicious, again, as affording examples of detail, are such interiors as Nos. 5, 8, 13—in which the lattice-work and the Oriental patterns in very low relief could hardly be surpassed. In short, whether as affording matter for pleasure, or material for precise study, this is a book—according to its order—of the highest beauty and interest.

In the *Photographic Studies* (Nos. I. and II.), by George Shaw, Esq., and in the *Photographic Pictures* (Parts I. and II.), by Hugh Owen, Esq., published, like the above, by Mr. Cundall, at the Photographic Institution—the limits, blemishes, and short-comings of the Sun's work are more distinctly to be seen. They are in all sixteen open-air scenes, in recording which minuteness and clearness, rather than aerial perspective, were the graces to be tried for. The best specimen, perhaps, is Mr. Owen's 'Gateway, Farleigh Castle':—here the delicate touch of the ivy, almost equals, in effect, the broader "sleight of hand" by which Mr. Anthony has made his village churchyard landscapes, with all their fragrant, so remarkable.—The studies of leafless trees in winter, too, are striking and valuable. But in other fragments of glade and glen scenery, the incompleteness, the confusion, and the omission of that viewless thing called air, (which, of course, our painter the Sun, who acts down only what he sees, must overlook,) produce an impression of uneasiness, untruthfulness, of bewilderment rather than repose—which removes these clever and interesting specimens beyond the verge of the world of Art.

COLOUR IN SCULPTURE.

No subject connected with the pictorial or plastic art seems, of late, to have excited more speculation than the uses and functions of Colour. After having been long, in painting, universally regarded as a sensual grace, a school of thinkers and rhapsodists has arisen, with Mr. Ruskin for their eloquent spokesman, who, regard colour not only heretically or traditionally (*blazoning* Saints by the blues and scarlets of their robes, as well as indicating them by such constant symbols as lamb, palm-branch or wheel)—but, studying it with reference to the impression produced by it intrinsically,—defend it as a vehicle and adjunct of expression in pictures. Contemporaneously with this movement, it is singular to observe, that a body of sculptors, alarmed, possibly, by the insipidity and weakness of modern sculptural art, has arisen, whose aim appears to be, to introduce animation, discrimination of parts and substances, by tints and thread-lines, which, with public favour, may grow into blushes for a *Venus's* cheek, and which

may lend to the goddess not merely the golden armlet and necklace which the mighty men of old somewhat inconsistently sanctioned, but also the Tyrian purple for her robe!—Naturally enough, these proceedings have excited general and earnest interest among sculptors;—as one among many proofs of which, we print a few desultory notes and considerations on the subject, from a letter to a friend by Mr. Hiram Powers, the well-known American sculptor. Such being their origin, it is needless to defend their writer from the criticism to which he might have been exposed were the following put forward as a substantial essay by him.

Before considering the propriety of colouring Statuary, it may be well to point out the office of Form and the office of Colour.

Form gives expression, action, motive, grace. In short, the purpose is in Form. We know what is meant by form, whether it be a man, a horse, or a dog; and we know what any of these mean particularly by the particular form or arrangement of their general form when we see them.

A man when about to strike presents to our view one arrangement of his form,—when about to leap another,—when about to ward a blow another, and so on. His face presents one form when he smiles, and another when he weeps. Anger effects a new combination or form of the features of his face,—and this, as far as it can be, is the case with the animals generally.

Rocks, trees, edifices, &c. cannot be said, properly, to have any other expression than that which is peculiar to inanimate things; but they may have expression by resemblance to animated beings. A rock may look like the head of a man, and thus have a borrowed expression, and so with the others. I have seen clouds look "very like a camel," and even "like a whale."

Thus it would seem, that the Spirit, or what is vital, reveals itself and its purposes through Form—and as the form is, so will be the revelation. The Form enacts what the Spirit dictates. It is the telegraph, so to speak, of the soul which moves it. There can be no change of expression or character without motion, and no motion without a something which moves. This something, whatever it be, is a form, or part of a form of forms. It follows that Form is the vehicle of expression.

Having attempted to show what is the office of Form in Art, I shall use fewer words in defining that of Colour. We may mistake for the moment a well-executed wax figure for a living human being, but we never mistake a statue of whatever excellence. And why? The first presents to our senses not only the form of a man, but also his very flesh, eyes and hair. The second gives us his form only, and therefore, however expressive it may be, and however like to some individual, it is not *illusive*. The one appears to have a fleshy body, the other, as it were, a spiritual body. The one appears to have a soul in the flesh, the other appears to be an abstract soul. Form shows how a thing is made, Colour shows of what it is made; but the latter has no expression, and sometimes fails to show us what a thing is made.—A board painted flesh colour would not look like a piece of flesh, nor would a similarly coloured piece of wax, if flat, square, or round,—but mould it into the form of an arm, a hand, or a face, and instantly you suggest the thought of flesh. Giving it form has given it expression, to which the colouring has become a suitable accompaniment. Colour, then, produces illusion, and is suggestive of matter or substance, and is beautiful and attractive, or otherwise, according to its arrangement or purity. The painter can do nothing without form; the sculptor can do everything in his legitimate art without colour. The painter, then, needs form; but does the sculptor need colour? Colour the Apollo Belvidere and he ceases to be a god, a spiritual embodiment; he steps down from his throne on high, and becomes man among men; we touch him, talk to him, and handle him with familiarity. And if this is so with one statue, it would be so with all, if all were equally perfect. When Sculpture calls upon her sister Painting for aid, she acknowledges her weakness, drops her chisel, takes up the palette, and pursues a mongrel art, half sculpture

half painting,—the one confessedly imperfect, or it would not have required the other, and both together a decided failure, since without glass eyes and natural hair, even *illusion* is wanting.

It is impossible to colour a marble statue so as to assimilate it to life, unless some means can be found of inserting glass eyes and actual hair for eyelashes and eyebrows. A wig might, indeed, be placed upon the head, previously made bald to receive it, and this would be the only way of getting rid of the appearance of solid hair. We see hair (apparently such) on the head of a well-executed marble statue, but colour the statue to resemble the natural colours of real life, and we directly expect to see hairs,—to look in among the locks and ringlets, and find them light and floating like real hair. Now, what is the appearance of marble hair coloured? It is that of locks of hair or a wig dipped in melted wax until saturated, and then matted upon the head. Marble can be coloured to resemble in some degree flesh, and to resemble the eyes in an inferior degree; but the hair looks less like hair with colour than without it. Colouring statues therefore cannot be carried out consistently on its own principles, and if so, to attempt it at all must be injurious. I trust that it will be abandoned at an early day.

When I look upon a well-executed and expressive statue I do not feel that anything is wanting in it. It seems full and complete. The bare idea of colouring it is offensive to my taste; I do not desire to see the natural body added to the pure soul that stands visibly before me. To me there is an inexpressible majesty in form alone, as seen in pure white marble carved to resemble man in the abstract,—a grandeur that transcends nature, and approaches the "image of God."

To the above a word or two of illustration may be added. Mr. Powers speaks conjecturally of what glass eyes and hair might do for a statue. Why not proceed, and remind the reader what they fail to do—from fact and experience?—Let them be ever so cunningly introduced, the effect will be found ghastly, startling, and unpleasant. Not to adduce such a familiar example as the Tussaud Gallery,—the Calvaries among the lakes of Northern Italy, at Orta, Varallo, and Varese;—and the coloured figures in the Baptistery at Novara, said to be by a hand no meaner than that of Gaudenzio Ferrari, may be recalled to all travelled dilettanti, in proof that High Art falls into close peril of being confounded with Low Artifice—when she condescends to tamper with materials not legitimately her own. To illustrate from an opposite direction, the embossed pictures of Crivelli, Botticelli, and other of the early Church painters, where merely such accessories as jewels, crosiers, and glories are in relief,—and never features,—pass thereby, to a certain small degree, out of the category of pictures,—and come within the sphere of the china-enameller and the curiosity-monger.—Ed.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We understand that there is an idea of holding the Norwich Musical Festival next year, instead of 1855,—thus bringing the meeting back into its usual order among our Festivals. This was disturbed by the absence of its conductor, Mr. Benedict, with Mlle. Jenny Lind in America, which led to the postponement of the meeting and to its collision last year with the Birmingham Festival. While mentioning such a report, let us hope that the Norwich Committee will not in their next preparations repeat their last year's rashness in experimenting among bad music, whatever be the temptation of private interest. Another such measure as the production of Mr. Pierson's 'Jerusalem' would be fatal to the reputation of our Eastern Festival. The price paid for the acceptance of a work which is obtained by a guarantee on the part of a composer's friends will always be, more or less, loss of reputation to the body trafficking, whether it be provincial or metropolitan. This some of our London Societies have found, and we do not lay down the principle without having illustrative facts within call.

We are anew reminded of the manner in which, amidst all the music, instrumental and vocal, old, middle-aged and young, which has been poured out during the last century, the Oratorios of Handel have risen in public estimation increasingly—with every new season.—This week, for instance, there have been three performances of 'The Messiah':—one on Wednesday, at St. Martin's Hall, for the first time, we believe, bringing an adequate performance of the Oratorio within the reach of a shilling public:—one on Thursday, at Exeter Hall, by the London Sacred Harmonic Society:—one on Friday, at Exeter Hall—and this, as our readers are aware, the second—by the Sacred Harmonic Society.

For the present week, a line must suffice to announce the commencement of a series of *Promenade Concerts* at St. Martin's Hall, conducted by M. Moirato.

The election of Royal scholars at our Royal Academy of Music took place a few days since. The successful candidates were Miss Rosa Lyle, Mr. J. Barnett (re-elected), and Miss Rosetta Vinning, re-elected for another year.

Madame Boieldieu has just died in Paris—the widow, we mean, of the composer of 'La Dame Blanche,' and 'Le Petit Chaperon Rouge.' She was, in her day, a pleasant singer,—before her marriage, a Mlle. Phillis, who personated the heroines of some of Boieldieu's operas in St. Petersburg, and there got her pension as a *prima donna*, and found her husband, whom she has survived so long that her death seems now like some story belonging to an older world.

The Parisian Correspondent of the *Independence Belge* (last week misprinted as *Russian* in p. 1521, col. 1), promises among sundry elaborate effects for M. Meyerbeer's forthcoming opera at the *Opéra Comique*, a chorus for four distinct choirs—and an orchestral scene, out-doing the well-known ball-music in 'Don Juan'—inasmuch as the modern composer (according to M. Jules Lecomte, the correspondent in question) makes his three orchestras play not in three different rhythms,—but in three different keys. Were we to point out how easy (the idea once given) are all such tricks, and how little effective is the original one—being neither dramatically truthful nor musically fascinating—a cry would be raised against us, as against blasphemers, not merely maligning Meyerbeer, but also the greater Mozart. We therefore simply express some hope that M. Lecomte has been writing in the popular Parisian style—which means modern *Orientalism*.—From other sources we learn that the artists engaged in "creating" M. Meyerbeer's new opera are well nigh "worn to shadows" by the composer's habitually self-tormenting exigencies in rehearsals.

A new five-act play, 'Diane de Lys,'—called a comedy by its author, M. A. Dumas the younger, but, to judge from the sketch of its plot, about as unpleasing a tale of gratuitous crime and desperate sorrow as ever harrowed the well-worn nerves of Parisian playgoers—has been produced at the *Théâtre Gymnase*, and, M. Janin assures us, with entire success.—Another new five-act play by Madame George Sand, dramatized by herself from her own coarse and exciting romance of 'Mauprat,' is the last novelty at the *Odéon* Theatre. As might have been expected, the drama seems to be less popular than the novel was before it: since the repulsive incidents with which the tale opens, however acceptable to those who do not reject the strongest emotions when no one is by to see them blush,—must, perforce, be softened and mitigated ere they could be presented in action to even a French audience.—The second five-act drama by M. A. Dumas, on the subject of the youth of *Louis Quinze* has shared the fate of the first one,—and its representation has been prohibited by the Parisian censorship. The dramatist has met the difficulty by promising to the *Théâtre Français* a third play, to be called 'La Jeunesse de Louis.' "If," says he, "this third essay be stopped like its two predecessors, I must be held clear of obligation to make further efforts to keep my engagement." Whether the incessant prohibition, or the undauntedly fertile manufacturer be the greater curiosity, must be left to the decision of Posterity.—Mlle.

Rachel,—who seems to be as fond of resigning her position at the *Théâtre Français*, where she is much wanted, as other actresses have been of frequently retiring altogether from the stage, for the purpose of throwing *éclat* on their "more last appearances,"—is said, once again, to have sent home her resignation from St. Petersburg. The same journals which announced this also announced another benefit for Mlle. Georges, at which, that veteran actress was to appear as the *Rodogune* of Corneille.

The vast equestrian circus of Berlin has been destroyed by fire.

MISCELLANEA

Atlantic Telegraph.—The great project for a system of telegraphs between Europe and America running along the islands of the North Sea—from the Orkneys to Shetland and the Faroe Islands, thence to Iceland, Greenland, Davis Strait and the shores of Labrador, and so on to Quebec—is occupying some attention in America,—where its necessity is doubted and its feasibility is denied. No doubt, a series of lines traversing so many seas, and passing through countries so little reclaimed by man from the wildness of savage nature, would be difficult to maintain in good working order. But the question is, whether the magnetic fluid can be conveyed along wires uninterrupted for three thousand miles? If not, then the shorter stages must be found, at whatever amount of inconvenience. The *State of Maine*, an American journal, affirms that it may. Speaking on the authority of our well-known engineer, it writes:—"Mr. Stephenson states, that a series of recent experiments has established the fact, that by forming a complete wire circuit,—that is, by two connected wires, extended so as to return to the same point of departure, forming a complete metallic circuit, instead of using one wire connected with the ground,—the galvanic current may be sent to any conceivable distance without loss or diminution of power. The supposed weakness of the current is to be attributed to its interruption by cross currents, which cross currents are overcome or avoided by the continuous wire circuit. In this way, doubling the expense of the submarine cable, making with it a complete metallic circuit or double track by a return line, the galvanic current may be sent without sensible loss of power, from London to Portland or New York, or, at any rate, from Galway to Cape Race." A direct line, if it be only possible to lay down and work it, would possess advantages over a line through Greenland which are too obvious to need recital.

Telegraphic Invention.—The *Official Venice Gazette* states, in a special article, that the Olympic Academy of Vicenza, having carefully examined the discovery made by their fellow-citizen Tremechini of electric telegraphy by secret transmission, has publicly declared it to be a successful invention. The commission appointed to test its efficacy was composed of the councillor-delegate, of the Podesta, the superior commissary, and the Academic council. The first experiment consisted in sending and receiving a despatch in the common way, without secrecy. In the second experiment a despatch was sent secretly, and the answer received in the same manner, by the aid of the new apparatus. In the third a despatch was sent openly, and the answer received secretly, to show that the secret apparatus might be used or suspended at will. The results of the inquiry are said to show,—first, that the apparatus of Tremechini may be applied to Morse's telegraph; secondly, that when the despatch is sent secretly it can only be received so, any fraud in that respect being subject to immediate detection; thirdly, that secrecy may be suspended or applied at pleasure.

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